



LAB COAT PROGRAM UPDATE

Contract negotiations with our vendor caused delays in implementation of the program, but we are ordering coats this week! They should arrive in time for fall term. EHS will continue laundering your coats until further notice. Thank you for your patience

SHIPPING DANGEROUS GOODS

Do you use a courier to ship items that could pose a hazard during transit? Examples include dry ice, infectious materials, or patient specimens. If so, you need formal training to be in compliance with State and Federal Regulations.

Good news! Laurie Graham is now certified to provide this training. Contact Laurie or Matt Hendrickson for a customized training so you can correctly package, label, and ship these materials. Training is valid for two years.



Indoor Air Quality Troubleshooting

EHS's Building Environmental Science Team responds to indoor air quality concerns on campus. If you detect a strange odor, there are steps you can take to troubleshoot the problem first.

- Dispose of food wastes into trash cans that are emptied daily – this will reduce smells as well as pests. Compost and trash bins are a frequent source of unpleasant smells.
- Keep floor and sink drains primed to avoid sewer gas backflow.
- Operate your lab's fume hood per manufacturer instructions so gases stay contained.
- Be aware of wildfire smoke during summer months and work with your supervisor if the outdoor air quality impacts your work duties.

If you detect an odor and suspect it may indicate a health hazard, call UOPD at x6-2919. Other non-urgent indoor air quality concerns can be reported to EHS through our [Indoor Air Quality \(IAQ\) Issue Reporting form](#) found at safety.uoregon.edu.

this issue

Indoor Air Quality **P.1**

Syringe Disposal **P.1**

Low Flow Fume Hoods **P.2**

New process for disposal of nonhazardous syringe bodies

Changes in the Oregon Administrative Rules have resulted in a new process for syringe disposal:

Non-biological syringe bodies with no needle attached may be disposed into regular lab trash for disposal to the landfill.

Syringe bodies used for medical applications or otherwise contaminated with blood, bodily fluids, infectious materials, or cell culture must still be incinerated. Dispose into sharps containers or the incineration box.

ALL syringe bodies with needles attached must be disposed into hard-sided designated sharps containers. NEVER remove a needle from a syringe before disposal -- it is not safe.



Highlighted Safety Sheet of the Quarter:

Laboratory Hazard Signs

Before entering an unfamiliar lab be sure to read the entry requirements and hazards listed on the door sign. Keep EHS informed if information changes and your sign needs updating.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON LABORATORY HAZARD SIGNS

LABORATORY HAZARD SIGNS

are required for laboratories on campus that store or utilize hazardous materials and equipment. The signs provide general safety and hazard communication information for laboratory workers and visitors. Emergency hazard and after-hours contact information are provided for first responders who may have to enter the lab in an emergency.

TO OBTAIN OR UPDATE A SIGN:

Contact the Lab Safety Officer (6-2864) and provide the following information:

- An updated chemical inventory for the space via EHS Assistant or Excel
- A detailed list of non-chemical hazards in your lab
 - Gas cylinders
 - High voltage equipment
 - Lasers
 - Biological hazards
 - Radioactive hazards
- A completed contact information form with after hours contact numbers for responsible parties for the lab.

EHS will create a sign using the above information and verify the contents with the lab's occupants prior to installation.

WHAT TO DO!

Notify EHS if the hazards in your lab change

- Notify EHS if the hazards in your lab change
- Check the hazard sign before entering new labs
- If reporting an emergency provide the hazard ratings and contact info on sign to the call taker if possible
- Do not remove or cover hazard signs for your lab
- Direct all additional questions or concerns to EHS.



Hazard signs use Globally Harmonized System (GHS) pictograms and specific NIH and NRC signage to depict hazards.



The NFPA 704 placard provides concise hazard information to first responders entering lab spaces during a life safety emergency.

RESILIENT Safety and Risk Services 1260 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403 safety.uoregon.edu/safetysheets

Environmental Health and Safety ehsinfo@uoregon.edu of 146-2864

Laboratory Safety Officer Laurie Graham lgraham@uoregon.edu

Does not act in place of official training. Contact EHS for more information.

Check out all Safety Sheets at:
<https://safety.uoregon.edu/safetysheets>

Pacific Hall's VAV Fume Hood

Functionality Saves Energy

Did you know that traditional fume hoods

exhaust the same volume of air regardless of sash position and they are very costly to operate 24/7 – upwards of \$4000 per year per hood? The fume hoods installed in the remodeled **Pacific Hall labs** are different than traditional fume hoods. Instead of the air flow rate decreasing as the sash is raised to maximum working height, these new fume hoods are able to maintain the same air flow rate regardless of sash position. This is accomplished by Varying the amount of Air Volume exhausted by the fume hood motor, thus they are called VAV fume hoods.

Even better, this ability to lower the volume of air exhausted when the sash is lowered decreases the exhaust motor speed and results in significant energy savings! Lowering or closing the sash completely when the fume hood is not in use is one easy way you can do your part to conserve energy and resources.

GO GREEN AND SHUT THE SASH.

Features this Quarter

Featured Super-Safe Lab Person

Kudos to **Matt Selby** in the Sullivan lab! Matt has worked diligently to ensure the lab stays compliant at a minimum and also follows best practices whenever possible. He doesn't hesitate to give EHS a ring when he's unsure or needs advice. Thank you, Matt, for going above and beyond – the lab is in good hands with you.

Meet our EHS Student Worker

Introducing Kamryn, our summer term student worker. She's a Human Physiology major and is getting plenty of exercise testing all eyewashes, safety showers, and fume hoods on campus this summer. Please welcome her if she stops by your lab, and if you have needs from EHS Kamryn can assist you as well.

