

Fall Term 2013: Safety Memorandum

• New Format and URL for Safety Web

Safety Web has transitioned to the same Drupal format used by our other web pages and it is now found at the URL shown below. A link to the site has been added to the department web page under the 'Research' tab. We are always interested in adding to the content available on Safety Web, especially the selection of standard operating procedures (SOPs). Please consider writing SOPs and having them added to Safety Web for the mutual benefit of all.

<http://chemsafety.chem.oregonstate.edu>

• Proper Labeling and Storage of Chemicals

A recent inspection of OSU by the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revealed some shortcomings with the storage of potentially hazardous chemicals on our campus. Any container being used to store a chemical must be provided with a legible label that clearly identifies the contents and any known hazard information using accurate terminology. Avoid abbreviations or acronyms that can be misleading and do not remove labels that come on containers from commercial suppliers. Compounds should be stored in appropriately sized screw-capped containers and different hazard classes kept separate from one another. If the container being used to store a stock compound begins to fail, then the contents should be transferred to a new and properly labeled replacement container. Waste containers must be clearly identified as such and hazards noted (e.g., "Waste Acetone; Flammable"). The waste container should have some sort of secondary containment vessel underneath it (e.g., a tray) and it must not be stowed in a sink nor on the floor. Unless new waste is being added to the container, it should remain capped. Finally, please remember that EH&S will collect and dispose of unwanted chemicals free of charge within a few days of receiving a request for pick-up. Guidelines for the acceptable storage of chemicals can be found within section 4 of OSU's Chemical Hygiene Plan at the following URL:

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/CHP04>

• Disposal of Unwanted Gas Cylinders and Lecture Bottles

An outside contractor will visit OSU within the next month to dispose of all manner of gas cylinders, including small lecture bottles. Please take this opportunity to identify unwanted gas cylinders within your research spaces and fill out a laboratory waste pick-up web form as appropriate as soon as possible. There is no charge to individual research groups for this service; however, the more items that can be disposed of at one time, the lower the unit cost per cylinder to OSU for the disposal contract, so please act quickly.

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/sites/default/files/webform/chempickup.html>

• Chemical Safety Seminar Class for First Year Graduate Students (CH607 - 010)

First year graduate students are reminded to register for the Chemical Safety Seminar class CH607 (Section 010, CRN 33656) for the upcoming winter term. The class will meet once a week during Monday lunchtimes (12–1 pm) in Wiegand 132 and begins on January 6 (2014).

<http://chemsafety7.science.oregonstate.edu/content/safety-training>