

## Winter Term 13: Safety Memorandum

### • Safety Shower and Eye Wash Station Testing

Safety showers should be tested on at least an annual basis to monitor their functionality. Please take this opportunity to review the dated inspection tags on showers within your lab space and schedule a test for any units that have not been assessed within the last 12 months. Tests can be scheduled with Kristi Edwards (kristi.edwards@orst.edu), alternatively, the test gear may be borrowed if you prefer to conduct your own shower tests. Remember to record the date of any test conducted on a tag attached to the shower.

Eye wash stations are easy to test without special gear and these units should be flushed on a regular basis (every ca. 1-2 weeks) to avoid water stagnation.

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/sd0076>

### • Disposal of Unwanted Hazardous Gas Cylinders

The Department is seeking to reduce its holdings of hazardous gas cylinders and in particular any redundant cylinders of ammonia. If there are unwanted stocks of such items in your laboratory space, please contact Dan Keppinger (chemstores@oregonstate.edu) with a description of the cylinders and their location and disposal will be scheduled with EH&S.

For an advisory on the safe use and handling of gas cylinders, please refer to the following bulletin:

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/sd0022>

### • Check Accuracy of Laboratory Signage

With many new faculty joining the Department during the past year, a number of laboratories now have obsolete signage. All laboratories should have a sign outside of their entry way indicating hazard information, required PPE, and the person to be contacted in the event of an emergency (usually the responsible PI). Please take this opportunity to check the signage outside of your lab and inform Matthew Philpott of EH&S (matthew.philpott@oregonstate.edu) of any errors or omissions that require correction.

For information on the hazard awareness signage system, please see:

<http://oregonstate.edu/ehs/SD0028>

### • Departmental Policy on Laboratory Attire and PPE

All those working in Dept. of Chemistry laboratories, including undergraduate and graduate students, post-doctoral associates, instructors, and PI's, are required to wear clothing covering them from shoulders to ankles. Footwear must be closed at the toe and heel. Short-sleeved shirts & blouses are acceptable, but not shoulder-less garments (e.g., tank tops). Long pants made of a substantial material are recommended and short trousers or short skirts are not permitted. PPE as posted must also be worn; for most labs within the department this includes safety glasses/goggles (goggles only in teaching labs), gloves, and lab coats. Graduate student TA's working in teaching laboratories are asked to be particularly mindful of this policy and to follow it themselves and to apply it consistently to undergraduate students in their assigned sections.