

1762 Clifton Road Suite 1200 Atlanta, GA 30322



RESEARCH

MONTHLY

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# this issue

April 2010

-Cleaning Up Biological Spills - Lab Coats Quick Facts

# St Cleaning Up Biological Spills

#### Minor vs. Major Spills:

Minor spills can be safely handled without the assistance of EHSO or emergency response personnel. All other spills are considered **major spills** and require the assistance of EHSO or emergency personnel. Laboratory personnel should call EHSO at 7-5922 during business hours or Emory Police (911 from a campus phone or 404-727-6111 from any other phone) after hours or if someone is injured.

#### **Cleaning Up Minor Biological Spills:**

- 1. Notify others that a spill has occurred.
- 2. Remove any contaminated clothing or PPE by folding the contamination inward and dispose of as biohazard waste.
- 3. Evacuate the spill area.
- 4. Wash potentially contaminated body parts with germicidal soap. Shower if necessary.
- 5. Allow time for aerosols to settle before returning to the spill.
- 6. Don appropriate PPE (ie: lab coat, double gloves, eye protection).
- 7. Confine the spill to a limited area using absorbent material.
- 8. Encircle the spill area with appropriate disinfectant (ie: freshly prepared 10% bleach) working from the outside of the spill and moving inward.
- 9. Allow at least 20 minutes of contact time.
- 10. Clean up the spill materials and dispose of as biohazard waste.
- 11. If sharps are involved:
  - A. Use a dustpan and broom or forceps to collect the waste.
  - B. Dispose of in a sharps container.

12. Wipe down the outside of bags, containers, and equipment involved with disinfectant and dispose of wipes as biohazard waste.

- 13. Doff PPE and dispose of as biohazard waste.
- 14. Wash arms, face, and hands with soap and water.

The above emergency procedures may be found in your lab's Just in Time Guide to Campus Emergencies Flip Chart. If you do not have a flip chart posted in your lab, contact your building liaison.

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Are you interested in submitting any tips or articles for the monthly Lab Rat Newsletter? ....Submit your ideas, suggestions, articles, etc. to biosafe@emory.edu and type Lab Rat Submission in the subject line.

# Training

**Most of EHSOs Trainings are** available online in Blackboard. Visit www.ehso.emory.edu for registration information. **Radiation Safety Training** 

2nd Tuesdays at 1:00 pm

Laboratory Safety Training 3rd Thursdays at 10:00 am

#### Eve Wash Testing

Someone in your lab should test the eyewash station once a month.

**Biosafety Cabinets** /

Chemical **Fume Hoods** 

PPE

Equipment

Choice to be based on potential exposures involved:

#### • Eye: Glasses, goggles & face shields

• Gloves: Appropriate for the type of procedure

• <u>Clothing</u>: Gowns, lab

coats, aprons, coveralls

**Respirators:** Appropriate for the type of procedure

### **Fire Extinguishers**

Check fire extinguishers in vour lab:

A. Is it present and mounted in its proper location?

**B.** Is it readily accessible? If it appears to need servicing contact the Maintenance HELP line at 7-7463.

Visit http://www.epcs.emory.edu/ fire/ for more information



Services /Emory Health-Care Corporate regarding immunization information (404-728-6437)

**Contact Employee Health** 

# Make your own **Biological Spill Kit**



- Concentrated household bleach
- ◄ A spray bottle for making fresh 10% bleach solutions
- Forceps or a dust pan and brush for handling sharps
- ◄ Paper towels or other suitable absorbent material
- Biohazard bags
- Gloves
- < Eye protection
- Sharps container

#### **Emergency Flip Chart**





# www.ehso.emory.edu



# Waste Disposal

Chemical and Radiation drop-off locations are:

Woodruff Labs – WMRB L302, Thursdays 1PM – 4PM

Whitehead & Rollins labs – Whitehead G44 Thursdays 9Am –noon

Chemistry Department, chemicals only – Emerson 133

Other Buildings -Request chemical pickup by calling 7-7091 Or send an email to chemwaste@emory.edu

Request Radiation pickup via EHS assist from website by Tuesday 5 PM for Wednesday pickup

Complete and sign your chemical disposal form or EHS assist radiation disposal form for both pickups and drop-offs.

# **Volunteers & Minors**

Contact Research Safety at 404-727-8863 for assistance with volunteers and minors working in your lab.

# Lab Rat April 2010

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- This newsletter is a tool to help fulfill a legal requirement for ongoing safety training.
- Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that individuals in their area have read and understood the information that applies to their area.
- The signed newsletter should be placed into the PIs EHSO Binder.

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Signature indicates: I have read and I understand the information in this issue of Lab Rat Newsletter. Use an additional sheet of paper for more signatures, if needed and attach to this document.

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#### ا When should I wear my lab coat?

You must wear your lab coat when you will encounter occupational exposures. This refers to any splashes, spills, aerosols, or droplets of hazardous materials. General work clothing such as pants, blouses, uniforms are not considered personal protective equipment. General work clothing is not designed to protect from workplace hazards. Remember the lab coat is designed to protect you from workplace hazards that can cause illness or injury through skin absorption or physical contact.

# When should I remove my lab coat?

The lab coat must be removed prior to leaving the work area and it must be placed in a designated area for storage. Your lab coat should not be worn outside of the lab. This includes break rooms, cafeterias and bathrooms.

## How often should I clean my lab coat?



EHSO recommends you clean your lab coat on a weekly basis. The lab coat must not be taken home to be washed or taken to a dry cleaning service. Emory provides a central laundry service for lab coat cleaning through UniFirst. UniFirst rents lab coats for personnel at a very reasonable rate. The contract also includes pick up and delivery service to and from the lab. Contact Roland Milam to set up an account (roland.milam@emory.edu)

## What are the limitations for my lab coat?

The ability of your lab coat to protect you depends on the hazard. It also depends on the duration or contact time, temperature of the environment, temperature of the hazard, the thickness of the barrier protecting your skin, and the composition of the barrier.



# **EHSO Documents**

Each division of EHSO has official documents that are used in various interactions between our department and you, the Emory Community.

Whether conducting your annual Lab Self-Inspection, completing a chemical inventory form for your waste disposal, or filing an odor complaint, always access our website at **www.ehso.emory.edu**, where current versions of all EHSO documents can be downloaded.

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# Building Liaisons

Each building has been assigned an EHS Specialist to assist with any questions/concerns you may have.

- Dionna Thomas 404-727-4673
  - Woodruff, Woodruff Extension, Winship & Rollins-Biology
  - Meagan Parrott 404-712-9480
    Dental, Clinic B, Pediatrics, North Decatur, Carlos Museum, Yerkes, Hope Clinic, Medical Office Tower, Crawford Long, RSPH, Oxford College & Rollins– Microbiology and Immunology & Pharmacology
- Rodrick Esaw 404-727-1348
  - Whitehead, Math & Science, Anthropology, Wesley Woods, Emerson, Briarcliff Campus Atwood & Rollins – Biochemistry, Chemistry, and Psychology Visit www.chso.emory.edu for updated forms and information.