



The Lab Rat NEWS

August 2012

Exposure Monitoring for Labs

Does your lab fix slides? Do you perform perfusions or use anesthetic gases? Many labs on campus use potentially hazardous chemicals on a daily basis during various portions of their experiments. While these chemicals are necessary for the completion of important experiments, they can cause adverse health effects when not used properly or without appropriate personal protective equipment. Because of the potential for our faculty researchers or staff to become exposed to these chemicals, the Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO) provides monitoring at no cost to the lab. The purpose of the monitoring is to determine what the exposure levels of these chemicals are to the researchers who use them. The following chemicals are examples of what EHSO will monitor:

- Formaldehyde
- Paraformaldehyde
- Formalin
- Isoflurane
- Xylene
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)



The results of the monitoring will indicate if you need to make changes to your work area, procedures, or personal protective equipment. It may even confirm that you're doing everything you need in order to prevent an exposure. The monitoring can usually be conducted at the time of an experiment and can be as unobtrusive as wearing a small badge on your shoulder.

If you work with any of the above chemicals or any other hazardous chemical, you may contact your building liaison to schedule an assessment.

The Emory EHS Principles Statement Has Been Approved

Emory is committed to protect and enhance the safety and health of its students, faculty, staff, and visitors and to protect the environment of our campus and surrounding communities. The University strives to be a leader in environmental stewardship, health protection, and safety. As part of that effort, Emory's Environmental Health and Safety Office is working with key stakeholders to develop and implement Emory's Integrated Environmental Health and Safety Management System (EHS-MS). The EHS-MS is a quality approach, which utilizes the Plan-Do-Check-Act method to organize and continually improve our environmental health and safety performance.

One of the most fundamental components of Emory's EHS-MS is the EHS Principles Statement. This is the foundation of the EHS-MS as it communicates Emory's culture and commitment to environmental, health, and safety stewardship and performance in support of the organization's mission. Internally, it provides focus for personnel, resources, and services. Externally, it demonstrates public commitment to levels of performance and continuous improvement and a statement to rally around.

The EHS Principles Statement was drafted to align with Emory's vision and mission. It also addresses requirements of three internationally recognized standards:

- ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management Systems
- OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems
- CWA 15793:2011 Laboratory Biorisk Management

Training

Most of EHSO's Trainings are available online in Blackboard.

www.ehso.emory.edu

for registration information.

Radiation Safety Training

2nd Tuesdays at 9:00 am

Laboratory Safety Training

3rd Thursdays at 10:00 am

Eye Wash Testing

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

Bio-safety Cabinets/
Chemical Fume Hoods
Certification required
annually.

Chemical/Radioactive Waste Pick-up Schedule

[Full Schedule here...](#)

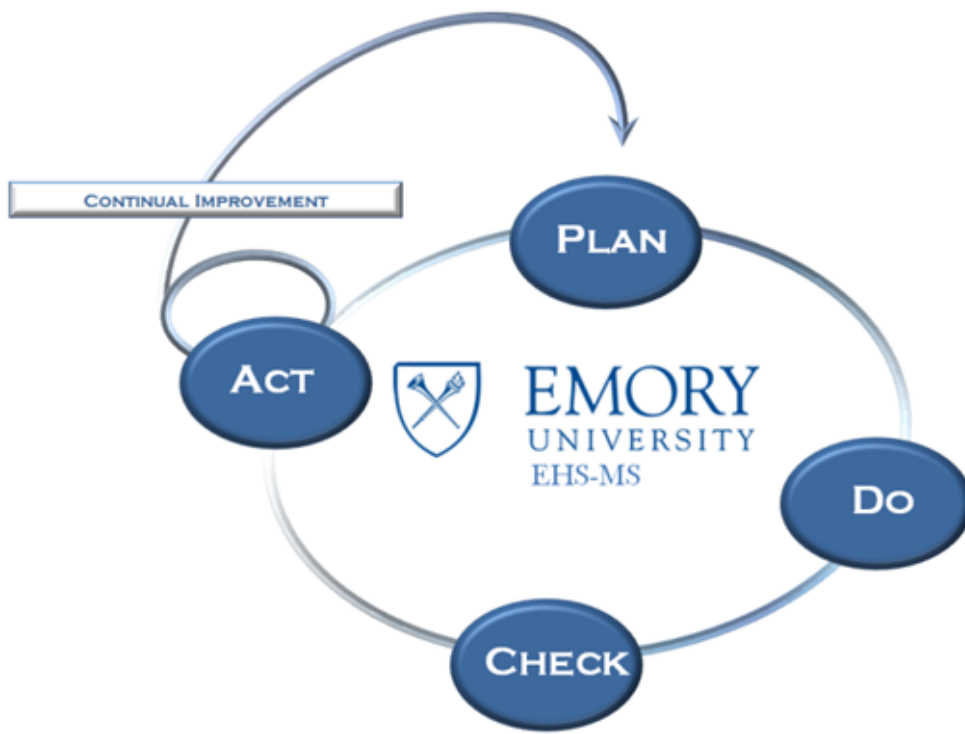
All **chemical** waste pick up should be requested by emailing

chem-waste@emory.edu

All **radioactive** waste pick up should be requested via EHS Assist pick-up. **Chemical** waste disposal inventory form and/or **radioactive** waste inventory form should accompany all waste containers at the time of pick-up.

PPE

Choice to be based on potential exposures involved:



The draft was reviewed by the EHS Oversight Committee, faculty, and staff from different schools and business units, and it was also published for comments on EHSO’s website for a period of one month. In April the EHS Principles were presented and approved by the Board of Trustees.

These principles are relevant to every member of the Emory community, including you. To view the EHS Principles, visit the following link:
<http://www.ehso.emory.edu/content-policies/EmoryEHSPinciples.pdf>

Eye: Glasses, goggles & face shields
 Gloves: Appropriate for the type of procedure
 Clothing: Gowns, lab coats, aprons, coveralls
 Respirators: Appropriate for the type of procedure

Fire Extinguishers

Check fire extinguishers in your 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
 Contact Employee Health Services / Emory Healthcare Corporate regarding immunization information at (404-728-6437)

Tell us how we are doing!

The newsletter has a new home. Every individual article is now hosted online at <https://blogs.emory.edu/labratnews/>

Got something to share? [Tell us!](#) Post comments, related articles/links, and safety concerns.

Feel free to also send your comments to bio-safe@emory.edu. We look forward to reading your ideas and comments!

Building Liaisons

- Dionna Thomas 404-727-4673**
Woodruff, Woodruff Extension, & Winship (Clinics B & C)
- Meagan Parrott 404-712-9480**
Dental, Medical Office Tower, Emory Midtown, School of Public Health (CNR/GCR), & Rollins
- Steve Arehart 404-727-4171**
Clinic B-Eye Center, Pediatrics. North Decatur, Carlos Museum, Yerkes, Hope Clinic, Wesley Woods, Briarcliff Campus, & Anthropology
- Rodrick Esaw 404-727-1348**
Whitehead, Math & Science, Emerson, Oxford College, & Atwood

Notice

- 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

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

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____