



Personal Safety And You

Join Emory Fire Safety and Emory Police at the annual information fair during Fire Safety Week.

10 am - 2 pm

Coca-Cola Commons

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8



this issue

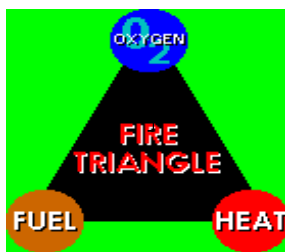
Fire Extinguishers and Fire Safety in a Research Laboratory

Fire Extinguishers and Fire Safety in a Research Laboratory

Fire is a common hazard that one faces in a science laboratory, and hence it is important to be prepared and to know how to deal with a fire emergency. Fire extinguishers are a first line of defense, only if used properly, and under the right conditions. Fire extinguishers are appropriate for small, incipient stage fires, no bigger than a wastepaper basket. University policy states that individuals are not required to fight fires, but that those who choose to do so must have been trained in the proper use of fire extinguisher. Training is provided by the University Fire Marshall and can be arranged by calling 404-727-7378.

Fire Triangle

A fire needs three elements to survive: oxygen, heat and fuel. This is known as the fire triangle. Fires are extinguished by removing one of the three elements of the triangle.



Oxygen	Makes up about 21% of the air that we breathe. To sustain a fire, a ratio of 16% oxygen or greater is needed.
Fuel	Can be combustible or flammable material, and may be solid, a liquid or a gas.
Heat	Is needed both to initially ignite the fire and also to sustain the fire.

Classification of Fires

Type of Fire	A	B	C	D
Items	Ordinary combustibles or fibrous material, such as wood, paper, cloth, rubber and some plastics.	Flammable or combustible liquids such as gasoline, kerosene, paint, paint thinners and propane.	Energized electrical equipment, such as appliances, switches, panel boxes and power tools.	Certain combustible metals, such as magnesium, titanium, potassium and sodium. These metals burn at high temperatures and give off sufficient oxygen to support combustion. They may react violently with water or other chemicals, and must be handled with care.

Fire Extinguisher:

ABC-rated multipurpose dry powder extinguishers are the most common on campus, particularly in the corridors of academic buildings. They are almost always RED in color and have either a long narrow hose or no hose (just a short nozzle). These extinguishers are very light (5-25 lbs total weight).



Training

Visit www.ehso.emory.edu for registration information.

Shipping Training

October 7th at 12:00 noon

Radiation Safety Training

2nd Tuesdays at 1:00 pm

Laboratory Safety Training

2nd & 4th Thursdays at 10:00 am

Eye Wash Testing

Someone in your lab should test the eye-wash station once a month.



Biosafety Cabinets / Chemical Fume Hoods Certifications are required annually.



PPE

Personal Protective Equipment

Choice to be based on potential exposures involved:

- **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:

- Is it present and mounted in its proper location?
 - Is it readily accessible?
- If it appears to need servicing contact the Maintenance HELP line at 7-7463.



Visit <http://www.epcs.emory.edu/>

Contact Employee Health Services / Emory Healthcare Corporate regarding immunization information (404-728-6437)





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

Request Radiation pickup via EHSassist 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.



ALL EMORY OWNED BUILDINGS HAVE ABC-COMBINATION EXTINGUISHERS. (There are some D extinguishers are located in the Chemistry Building and in the modular facilities at the Briarcliff Campus).



Components of a Fire Extinguisher:

1. **Cylinder** - Holds extinguishing agent and expelling gases
2. **Handle** - Used to carry and hold extinguisher
3. **Trigger** - When pressed, releases extinguishing agent through hose and nozzle
4. **Nozzle or Horn** - Agent expelled through these items
5. **Pressure Gauge** - Shows pressure of the extinguishing agent being stored in the cylinder. The indicator should be in the green area. CO₂ extinguishers do not have a pressure gauge.

Rules for Fighting a Fire:

Public Safety should be notified immediately at 911. If the fire is large or spreading, alert building occupants verbally or activate the fire alarm.

NEVER FIGHT A FIRE IF:

- *You don't know what is burning
- *The fire is spreading rapidly beyond the spot where it started
- *You don't have adequate or appropriate equipment
- *You may inhale toxic smoke
- *Your instincts tell you not to

Always position yourself with an exit or means of escape at your back before you attempt to extinguish a fire. If the fire is not out after you have completely discharged the extinguisher, exit the building immediately.

How to Use an Extinguisher:



1. Stand with your back to an exit so that you have a clear route to safety behind you if the fire starts to spread.
2. Position yourself approximately 10 feet from the fire, depending on the size of the extinguisher (the smaller the extinguisher, the closer you need to be).
3. Then follow this procedure:

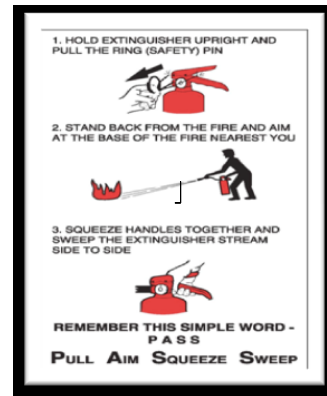
P . A . S . S .

PULL the pin to unlock the operative lever and allow extinguisher to discharge.

AIM low. Point at the base of the fire.

SQUEEZE the lever above the handle to discharge.

SWEEP from side to side moving carefully toward the fire; keep the fire extinguisher aimed at the base of the fire and sweep back and forth until flames are out.



NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON THE FIRE!

Monthly Inspections of Fire extinguisher:

"All fire extinguishers inside the labs should be checked monthly by lab personnel".

An inspection is a "quick check" to give reasonable assurance that a fire extinguisher is available, fully charged and operable.

Fire Extinguisher Monthly Quick Check

- ✓ Unit is in proper location.
- ✓ Unit is easily visible and accessible.
- ✓ Operating instructions are facing relatively outward for obvious viewing.
- ✓ Safety seals in place and snug on pin.
- ✓ Gauge is in the green and unit appears full when "hefted".
- ✓ Overall condition of unit looks undamaged.
- ✓ Initial the tag and report any problems



For additional information refer to <http://www.epcs.emory.edu/fire/>

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 Binder.

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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Building Liaisons

Each building has been assigned an EHS Specialists to assist with any questions/concerns you may have. The Liaisons will also conduct a monthly walkthrough of each lab.

- **Dionna Thomas 404-727-4673**
Woodruff, Woodruff Extension, Winship & Rollins
- **Meagan Parrott 404-712-9480**
Dental, Clinic B, Pediatrics, North Decatur, Carlos Museum, Yerkes, Hope Clinic, Medical Office Tower, Crawford Long, Rollins, RSPH & Oxford College
- **Rodrick Esaw 404-727-1348**
Whitehead, Math & Science, Anthropology, Wesley Woods, Emerson, Briarcliff Campus & Atwood
- **Vijaysmitha Rayadurg 404-727-4796**
Rollins

You may also find updated information and forms at www.ehso.emory.edu.