



# The Lab Rat NEWS

October 2012

## Biosafety Training

EHSO has kicked-off a new online training module in the Emory Learning Management System: Biosafety Training (**Course Code 240120**).



### Who Needs to Take It:

All individuals listed on a Biosafety Protocol: those conducting research with potentially infectious or otherwise hazardous materials deriving from plant, animal, or human sources, including infectious agents, biological toxins, and recombinant DNA material.

### How Frequently:

Training is required every three years.

### What it Covers:

The principles of biosafety and the application of the [NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules](#) at Emory University.

### How to Take it:

Instructions for this training are on the EHSO [website](#).

## Do You Know How to Use a Fire Extinguisher?

Fire extinguishers are provided to the labs in the event that a small fire develops. A small fire can be defined as “trash can” sized or an incipient stage fire. All Emory-owned buildings are equipped with ABC-Combination extinguishers. ABC-rated multipurpose dry powder extinguishers are the most common on campus, particularly in the corridors of the 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). There are also some D extinguishers used for metal fires located in the Chemistry Building.

### *Is a fire extinguisher mounted in the lab?*

OSHA requires that fire extinguishers received two types of inspections to ensure that they will work when activated:

- Annual certification inspection
- Monthly visual inspection

The annual inspection is conducted by an Emory approved contractor. Monthly visual inspections of the fire extinguishers inside the labs are the responsibility of the individuals in the work area.

### *Why is monthly inspection necessary?*

The monthly inspection helps to ensure the work place is safe in two ways. First, it helps workers to become familiar with the location of the nearest fire extinguisher. Second, by inspecting the extinguishers monthly, workers can help to ensure that they are in good condition and will work when necessary.

### *When conducting the monthly inspection, what do I need to check?*

- **Location** – Is the fire extinguisher mounted on the wall?
- **Condition** – Is the seal in place and is the gauge needle in the **green**?
- **Sign** – Initial and Date the back of the inspection card following each check

If the fire extinguisher is not mounted on the wall or the gauge indicates that it is not in working condition, then you will need to contact Campus Services at 404-727-7378 for a replacement.

### *Where can I find more information about the monthly visual inspection?*

Fire Life Safety provides visual cues in Blackboard to assist the labs with the visual inspection process and fire extinguisher usage. To view this information go to: <https://classes.emory.edu>

### Training

Most of EHSO's Trainings are available online.

[www.ehso.emory.edu](http://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

### Chemical/Radioactive Waste Pick-up Schedule

[Full Schedule here...](#)

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

[chemwaste@emory.edu](mailto:chemwaste@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:

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

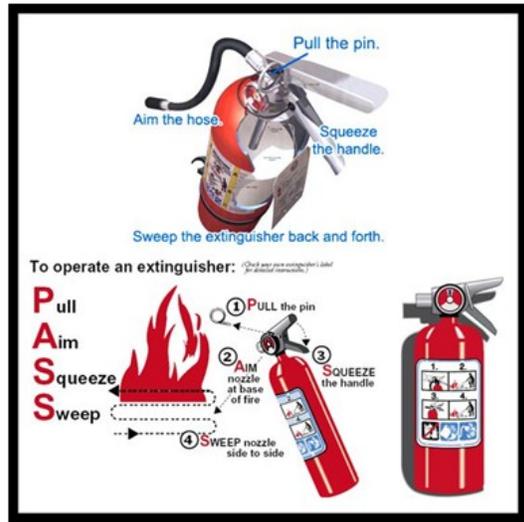
- Log In
- Click on Organizations
- Click on Fire Safety
- Click Link under the Organization Id – “EU\_FS”

**Are evacuation routes posted?**

Building evacuation routes are posted near the stairwells and elevators of each research building. If you do not notice evacuation routes posted in your building, then contact Fire Life Safety at 404-727-7378. Additionally, labs can create and post evacuation routes inside of the lab.

**What do I do if there is an actual fire in my lab?**

If a fire is in the beginning stages, then you may be able to put out the fire using a nearby fire extinguisher. Once you locate the fire extinguisher, position yourself several feet away from the fire.



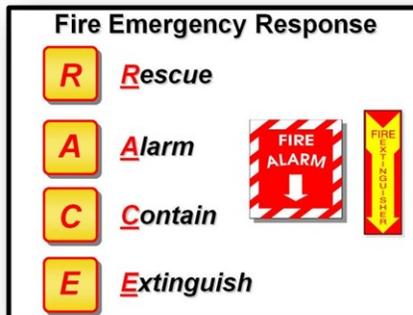
Remember to keep your back towards the nearest exit. You need to have a clear route of escape in the event the fire starts to spread. When you are ready to discharge the fire extinguisher, you must remember the **P.A.S.S** principle.

- PULL** the pin to unlock the operative lever and allow the extinguisher to discharge.
- AIM** low. Point at the base of the fire.
- SQUEZZE** 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.

**What if I discover a fire?**

If you discover a fire or notice smoke, then you will need to get to safety. So, remember the acronym **R.A.C.E.!**

- R** = Remove all persons in immediate danger to safety.
- A** = Activate manual pull station AND call or have someone call Emory Police at 911 from any campus phone.
- C** = Close doors and fires shutters to prevent the spread of smoke and fire.
- E** = Extinguish the fire (if you are able).



**Notice**

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.

- 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 Lab Safety Binder.

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**CONTROLLED DRUG DISPOSAL:**

On October 25, 2012 an Agent from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) will be on campus to receive Controlled Drugs for disposal. Drugs may be delivered to the Whitehead Biomedical Research Building Suite G-44 from 9-11am. A completed DEA 41 Form must be completed by the Registrant before Controlled Drugs may be surrendered to the Agent.

**Eye Wash Testing**

Someone in your lab should test the eyewash station once a month. Bio-safety Cabinets/ Chemical Fume Hoods Certification required annually.

**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

**Tell us how we are doing!**

The newsletter has a new home. Every individual article is now hosted online at [blogs.emory.edu/labratnews/](http://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 [biosafe@emory.edu](mailto:biosafe@emory.edu). We look forward to reading your ideas and comments!

**Building Liaisons**

[Click here](#) to find your building's Radiation and Research liaisons.