



The Lab Rat NEWSLETTER

October is Fire Safety Month

Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher? If a fire is in the beginning stages, then you may be able to put it out by using a nearby fire extinguisher. First, pull the fire alarm, locate the nearest fire extinguisher, and position yourself approximately 6 feet away from the fire, keeping your back towards the nearest exit. Have a clear route of escape in case the fire starts to spread. When you are ready to discharge the fire extinguisher, remember **P.A.S.S.** (see image). After discharging the fire extinguisher, notify **Fire Life Safety** at 404-727-7378 to receive a replacement. Only trained personnel should use a fire extinguisher. To schedule hands-on fire extinguisher training for your lab, contact the **Emory Fire Safety Division** at (404)-727-0987.

Is a fire extinguisher mounted in the lab?

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

- **Monthly visual inspection:** The responsibility of the individuals in the work area.
- **Annual certification inspection:** Conducted by an Emory-approved contractor.

How do I conduct a monthly inspection?

- **Location**– Is the fire extinguisher mounted on the wall? Is the fire extinguisher unobstructed?
- **Condition**– Is the pin in place and is the gauge needle in the green?

If answers are “yes,” **initial and date the back** of the inspection card following each check. If answers are “no,” **contact Fire Life Safety** at 404-727-7378 for a replacement.

Are evacuation routes posted & current/ correct? 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, contact **Fire Life Safety** at 404-727-7378.

Fire Safety

There are four essential steps to take if you discover a fire:



R
Rescue
anyone in immediate danger of the fire.



A
Alarm
Activate the nearest fire alarm **and** call your fire response telephone number.



C
Contain
fire by closing all doors in the fire area.



E
Extinguish
small fires. If the fire cannot be extinguished, leave the area and close the door.

You should know:

- Locations of nearest fire extinguishers and alarm pull boxes
- The fire location - room number and building
- All fire exits in your work area

How to properly operate a Fire Extinguisher



P
Pull
the pin, release a lock latch or press a puncture lever.



A
Aim
the extinguisher at the base of the fire.



S
Squeeze
the handle of the fire extinguisher.



S
Sweep
from side-to-side at the base of the flame.

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Emory Police and Fire Safety Fair Coming in October

It's that time of the year again for the Emory Police and Fire Safety Fair. The Safety Fair will be on **Wednesday, October 26, 2016, from 10:30 am – 2:30 pm** at the Dobbs University Center (605 Asbury Circle).

The Environmental Health and Safety Office will have a booth with information about our department and an activity for participants to win prizes. Mark your calendars and come out to learn about other safety groups on campus.

Emory EHSO
Research Safety

ehso.emory.edu
404-727-5922

New NIH Guidelines for Human Gene Transfer



National Institutes of Health
Office of Science Policy

NIH's Office of Science Policy has released guidelines for registration and review of human gene transfer protocols.

These protocols involve the transfer of recombinant nucleic acid molecules or their derivatives and/or synthetic nucleic acid molecules into human research participants. For the new guidelines, click here: <http://bit.ly/2d1cR5E>

Beta Test EHSO's New Regulated Waste Collection System

Through the end of October, EHSO will beta test a new regulated waste collection system. Save time and paper by simply filling out the online form linked on the EHSO home page under the **"Waste Collection"** button (ehso.emory.edu).

During this process, we encourage you to send feedback as well as your questions to chemwaste@emory.edu.



ehso.emory.edu. Please test it out and check our website for future information and updates!

October is NIH's Biosafety Month

Use this opportunity to assess your biosafety habits. Are you:

- **Registering all of your biological work with the Biosafety Office?** We switched to an electronic platform, BioRAFT, this year. Use this new system to submit your work.
- **Practicing good lab techniques?** Disinfect surfaces after work and wash your hands

every time you leave the lab.

- **Handling your biomedical waste appropriately?** All waste should go into a biohazard bin that is kept closed when not in use. Waste should go out through Stericycle.

Contact your building liaison if you have any questions by visiting ehso.emory.edu/about.

Training

Training information found at:
ehso.emory.edu/training

Building Liasons

Radiation and Research liasons can be found at:
ehso.emory.edu/about/

Feedback

Send comments to:
biosafe@emory.edu

About This Newsletter

- This newsletter is a tool to help fulfill a regulatory 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 PI's EHSO Lab Safety Binder.

Signature Here

- 1.
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- 3.
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- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Your signature indicates that you have read and understand the information in this issue of the *Lab Rat Newsletter*. Use an additional sheet of paper for more signatures, if needed, and attach to this document.

BIORAFT

Use BioRAFT for submission of all of your biosafety protocols. This includes:

- New project/3 year renewal
- annual updates
- amendments

Do not use old paper forms.

Visit our website for more details:
ehso.emory.edu

