EMORY UNIVERSITY | Environmental Health and Safety Office
Research Administration
November 2016 Edition

The Lab Rat NEWSLETTER

Dry Ice Disposal

Dry ice is the solid form of carbon dioxide. It is used in research as a cooling agent. Dry ice is considered a hazard because it presents the following types of **health hazards**:

- **Skin contact hazard** – Skin can be damaged by the extreme cold temperatures of the ice pellets or blocks. Frostbite can occur when in contact with skin.
- **Inhalation (Suffocation) hazard** – Dry ice releases carbon dioxide gas. In an area with poor ventilation, this can create an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.
- **Explosion hazard** – If dry ice is enclosed inside of a sealed container or confined space, it can release gas in volumes large enough to cause a violent release. This can result in personal injury or property damage.

To handle dry ice safely:

- Store in a well-ventilated location. Avoid storing in cold rooms or storage closets unless there is adequate ventilation supplied to the area.
- Do not place dry ice inside of containers that do not vent.

Do Not Put Dry Ice in Sinks = Could Result in Crack or Damage

- Never handle dry ice with bare hands. Reduce the risk of injury by wearing cryogloves.
- Always dispose of dry ice properly. Let the remaining portion sublimate in a well ventilated area.
- Never dispose of dry ice in a sink, toilet, or other confined space. This can cause structural damage and costly repairs. In one research building, the cost was between $300-$400 to repair.

Shipping Training Reminders

Below are solutions to some of the issues with the Shipping Training registration in ELMS:

1. Invalid SmartKey
Solution – Individual should verify SmartKey with their business manager, administrator, or the person who does their department accounting. Then, email biosafe@emory.edu with verified SmartKey.

2. Individual is dropped or denied
Solution – Individual should talk with supervisor.

3. Individual does not know who their supervisor is (e.g. an individual may report to one person when another person is their official supervisor)
Solution – Individual should talk with their business manager/administrator to determine their real supervisor.

4. Supervisors are not approving training (e.g. no action).
Solution – Individual should ask their supervisor to log into ELMS, click "Team Members," select the drop-down box to the right of their name, and click "Approve."

GHS Classification & Labeling of Chemicals

In this and future editions of *The Lab Rat Newsletter*, EHSO will provide quick overviews of the current **hazard communication standard**. The goal is to remind laboratory personnel of the information these pictograms are communicating regarding hazards in the laboratory.

WHAT

Pictogram: **Health Hazard**

Category:

- Carcinogenic
- Mutagenic
- Reproductive toxicity
- Specific target organ toxicity following acute or repeated exposure
- Aspiration hazard

HOW

Storage Practices:

- Isolate from non-toxic, irritants and harmful chemicals (use secondary containers to separate)

WHERE

Storage Locations:

- Lab shelving & cabinets
- Small bin on shelving or cabinet shared with other chemicals
- Check Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for additional requirements

Common Examples: ethidium bromide, formaldehyde, dichloromethane, toluene

EHSO's New Waste Collection Request System

Starting November 1st, EHSO will transition to using a new regulated waste collection system. Since September 1st, EHSO has tested the system to ensure improved user experience.

Please visit ehso.emory.edu and click on the "Waste Collection" button for more information.

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

Fire Extinguishers

Visual inspections of your fire extinguishers should be conducted **monthly**, confirming the following:

- Is it present and mounted in its proper location? Is it readily accessible?
- Is the pin in place and is the gauge needle in the green?

After confirming these questions, **initial and date the attached tag**.

For **servicing**, contact Campus Services at 404-727-7463.

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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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.