

### *Training Topic of the Month:*

All new laboratory employees must receive Laboratory Safety training from EH&S as a requirement of the OSHA Laboratory Standard. While there is no OSHA requirement for refresher training in lab safety, we feel that regular review of lab safety topics is essential to a safe work place. Monthly reading of this newsletter will provide such a review. This month's topic is "**Emergency Response**".

1. It is critical that ALL occupants of a laboratory are aware of the correct emergency response procedures.
2. Details of the emergency response procedures are found in the laminated Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) posted in every laboratory. All employees should review this guide regularly. *If your ERG is missing or has fallen from the wall, contact me at [markb2@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:markb2@andrew.cmu.edu) and the problem will be corrected.*
3. Probably the most important thing to know is to call University Police (8-2323) in the event of all but the most minor emergencies. **DO NOT CALL "911"**. Our police will coordinate any responses needed for the emergency, including ambulance, EH&S, Haz-Mat or Fire Department.
4. When you call University Police, be sure to give them full information of the situation. This includes
  - The nature of any injuries, if any
  - The name of any chemicals or hazardous materials involved (spell them if necessary)
  - Exactly what happened and exactly where it occurred
5. After you make the call, locate yourself in a safe place where you can be contacted for further information, if it is needed.
6. If an injury or accident involves a hazardous material, try to obtain the MSDS for the material(s) **IF YOU CAN DO SO WITHOUT HARM**. The MSDS may then be supplied to the emergency responders (i.e., Fire Department or ambulance personnel.)
7. There will be cases where you can do some emergency response, but only under certain circumstances. For example, you can provide First Aid, **but only if you have been trained to do so**. Also, you may respond to small-scale chemical spills, **but only if you have been trained to do so**. It is critical that untrained personnel do NOT perform any emergency response. Improper responses may worsen an already bad situation.
8. Remember that persons exposed to hazardous chemicals during a spill or leak, have a right to a medical consultation to determine any possible effects of their exposure. Contact EH&S if this has occurred.
9. Most accidents and injuries require some sort of follow-up paperwork. All injuries that occur require that an accident report be completed and sent to Human Resources. Chemical spills and related issues will be investigated by EH&S and findings and recommendations will be distributed as needed.

#### JINX Alert:

*I am tempting the fates by discussing emergency response this month. August has been our traditional month for campus emergencies. Let's hope to break that trend this year!*



### **Laboratory Safety and Hazardous Waste Training**

August 22, 2008

9:30 AM to Noon

HbH237

September 4, 2008

9:30 AM to Noon

HbH1003

To register, go to: [http://ehs-alert.fms.bap.cmu.edu/EHSWebSite/Training/ClassDescriptons/training\\_laboratory\\_safety.htm](http://ehs-alert.fms.bap.cmu.edu/EHSWebSite/Training/ClassDescriptons/training_laboratory_safety.htm)

## Special Training for Incoming Students

EH&S traditionally performs a good deal of additional training for incoming students, faculty and staff at the start of the academic year. If you would like to schedule a special training class for

your incoming people, please contact Mark Banister at 8-1493 or at [markb2@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:markb2@andrew.cmu.edu) and we will set you up.

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## Environmental Topic of the Month: Hazardous Waste Generation

It is important to be mindful of your laboratory's EPA requirements for the proper accumulation of hazardous waste. These are your hazardous waste container REQUIREMENTS:

1. Containers must be compatible with the material going into them
2. Containers must be labeled with the words "Hazardous Waste" and the container contents (ask EH&S for labels to help with this)
3. Containers must be closed with a screw top lid at ALL times, except when materials is actually being put inside
4. Containers must be setting in a secondary containment bin or tray when there is a drain or sink nearby
5. Containers must remain **IN THE ROOM WHERE THE WASTE WAS GENERATED** until removed by our waste contractor or by EH&S. *You cannot even move it to another one of your own labs!*

It is also important that you know what materials are considered hazardous. They are any material that is:

- Flammable (flash point >140° F)
- Corrosive (pH less than 2 or greater than 12.5)
- Reactive (with water, air, or common chemical)
- Toxic (see the MSDS for this information)

When in doubt of whether your material meets the above definitions, it is best to assume it is hazardous and to follow the above accumulation requirements. Call EH&S at 8-8182 with further questions. **Next month: Removal of the waste chemicals from your lab and where they end up!**

### Hazardous Waste Pick-up Schedule

Mellon Institute	Aug 12,26 & Sep 9,23	9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Wean and Doherty Halls	Aug 12,26 & Sep 9,23	12:30 PM to 3:30 PM
All other main campus locations	Aug 13, Sep 10	9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
PTC	Aug 13, Sep 10	12:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Penn Ave., Robotics Consortium	August 27	
Computers	Aug 7, Sep 4	

To request a waste pick-up or receive waste labels or tags, go to:

[http://ehs-alert.fms.bap.cmu.edu/EHSWebSite/Waste\\_Recycling/HazardousWaste.htm](http://ehs-alert.fms.bap.cmu.edu/EHSWebSite/Waste_Recycling/HazardousWaste.htm)

#### SPECIAL NOTE:

For those of you with **household** hazardous waste looking for a place to dispose of it safely, there is a collection scheduled for Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 9AM to 1PM at Manheim Pittsburgh (formerly Butler Auto Auction) on Route 19 in Cranberry Township. The cost is \$2/gallon. Check out [www.swpahhw.org](http://www.swpahhw.org) for further information and a list of items they will and will not accept.