Safety in the Lab

By
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Basic lab safety

- Workplace Safety and Environmental Protection
- Labels on all samples and chemicals
- Read the MSDS
- Cleanliness in the workplace
- Hours of work
- Know what to do in case of emergency
- Fire alarms
- Mandatory WSEP Lab Safety Courses
- No Food or Drink in any lab that contains chemicals
Workplace Safety and Environmental Protection (WSEP)

www.usask.ca/wsep

- Located in the Research Annex Building (RANNEX)
- They enforce all the safety related issues on Campus
- Offer training courses
- Assist in the processing of Incident reports and Workmen’s Compensation forms
- Safety inspections
- Policies and Procedure Manuals

Labels

- All samples must be labeled with the name of the product and any hazards associated with the product.
- The statement “See MSDS” must appear on all controlled substances.
- Label all containers including distilled water bottles.
- It is very expensive to dispose of unknown chemicals.
Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)

- Material safety data sheets are issued by the supplier for all controlled products.
- The MSDS contains all the safety precautions that need to be taken to safely use the product.
- MSDS are available in either hardcopy or electronic format.
- To achieve the most up to date MSDS the web is an excellent source.
- A very good site is: http://ccinfoweb.ccohs.ca/msds/search.html
- Read the MSDS before using the product.

Cleanliness

- A clean workplace shows professionalism and pride in your work.
- Many tours are conducted in this department and we must present an image that is pleasing to the public.
- A clean workplace is a safe workplace, by removing tripping hazards, or fire hazards.
Hours of work

- Regular hours of work are 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.
- Computer work can be done outside of these hours but lab experiments should only be conducted during the regular work day.
- Any work that needs to be conducted after the regular work day must be approved by your supervisor and proper U of S safety protocol must be followed.
- Safety procedures and guidelines are available on the WSEP web site.

Outdoor Work

- Please take safety precautions when working outdoors.
- The university has a policy manual for those people working off the university owned land, Please read it.
- Remember to protect yourself from the sun and the elements.
Know what to do in case of emergency

- Be informed of your surroundings, i.e. fire extinguishers, exits, First Aid kits, etc.
- If you use First Aid supplies, inform your supervisor and the Technical staff so the kit can be replenished.
- All injuries requiring medical attention must be reported to your supervisor and WSEP.
- Incident Reports must be completed for all injuries requiring medical attention. These forms must be filled out online, at the WSEP home page, by the person who was injured. For assistance in filling out these forms contact Mike or Louis.

Fire alarms

- When the fire alarm sounds for more than 10 seconds you must evacuate the building. You must not re-enter the building until the fire marshal gives the “all clear” message.
- Designated engineering staff members will inspect rooms and labs to ensure evacuation has been completed.
- People not complying with the alarms will face possible fines or other disciplinary action.
Mandatory DHS&E Lab Safety Courses

- All AGBIO personnel including Graduate Students must take the following safety training courses offered by WSEP:
  - Safety Orientation for Employees
  - Laboratory Safety
  - Biosafety

- The dates of courses and booking information is on the WSEP website.
- Depending on the type of research being conducted, other courses may be required as well.

No Food or Drink in Labs

- No Food or Drink in any lab that contains chemicals
- Do Not store your food in the lab fridges and freezers. Use the fridges in the lunch/coffee rooms for your food, if it needs to be refrigerated.
- Don’t store chemicals in your offices.
Enjoy your time in our department!

Thanks for your cooperation