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# The Waste-Paper

*“A waste is a terrible thing to mind”*

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## *EHS Lab Survey Checklist*

During the summer months, EHS will be surveying many of the laboratories on campus looking for regulatory deficiencies and failure to follow laboratory safety best practices. Below is a list of the some items EHS verifies during laboratory surveys.

### *General:*

- Signs and Postings such as (EIP) Emergency Information Posters and hazard signage
- Proper workplace lighting, the presence of hand washing facilities
- Egress pathway, circuit breaker, and sprinkler heads clearances
- The state of emergency equipment including fire extinguishers, safety showers, eyewash stations

### *Equipment and Refrigerators*

- Proper use and labeling of refrigerators and freezers (flammable vs. non-flammable rating)
- Fume hood condition and usage
- Proper use of other engineering controls (gloveboxes, biological safety cabinets)

### *Chemicals*

- High risk chemical usage and presence of SOPs and training records
- PPE availability and type
- Chemical storage including segregation and labeling of cabinets and containers
- Flammable storage limits observed
- Hazardous waste collection, labeling, capping, and storage

### *Electrical Safety*

- Cords, outlets, and plugs in good condition
- Proper use of multi-plug outlet strips and appropriate use of extension cords
- All shielding and guarding is in place

### *Compressed Gases and Cryogenics*

- Cylinders are properly secured with the caps in place when not in use
- Proper pressure-rated tubing is used and incompatible gases are segregated
- Adequate ventilation for cryogenic usage
- Proper PPE availability

### *Other Hazards*

- This may include laser, biological, or radioactive material usage surveys

### *Personal Protective Equipment*

- Is proper PPE available AND being used?
- Does EHS have additional recommendations for PPE based on the research?

### *Interview Points*

- Laboratory security practices
- Training practices and documentation
- General safety and hazard awareness
- Shipping practices

The full survey contains nearly 200 separate items. To request the full checklist, please contact Brandon Chance ([bchance@princeton.edu](mailto:bchance@princeton.edu)) via email or at 258-7882.

## *EHS Website Update*

Last month all of you read about the unveiling of the new EHS website. We have received lots of valuable feedback and appreciate everyone that participated in our ‘rollout’ scavenger hunt. We have received over 100 responses as a result of the request for feedback.

Some of the comments included:

- “I really enjoy the new user interface. It is information rich and very organized. Not to mention that it is pleasing to the eye. The fact that all the safety topics are covered in a drop down menu-like interface makes it very easy to navigate.”
- “The new website is definitely much cleaner and easier to navigate than the old version (kudos!). Organizing the major topics into drop-down menus near the top of the page was a particularly smart move.”
- “I absolutely love the listing of staff with the breakdown of specialty areas because I learned something new about whom to contact for specific things I did not know in the past! Great job.”

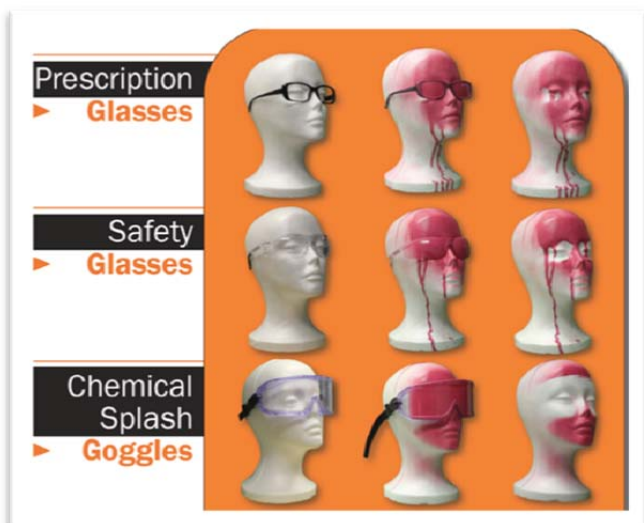
EHS wishes to congratulate the winners of our Feedback Contest, Alexis Kriete from EEB and Jacqueline Armstrong from CBE and the winners of our Rollout Scavenger Hunt, Sandra Parisi from Housing and Real Estate Services and Molecular Biology Postdoctoral Research Associate Aileen O’Connell.

Thank you to all who participated and if you have further comments or feedback, please feel free to reach out directly to [ehs@princeton.edu](mailto:ehs@princeton.edu).

## Eyewear Initiative

One model of eye protection does not protect you from all of the hazards you may encounter during your day in the lab. For some tasks, safety glasses may be sufficient; for others, chemical splash goggles may be required. Furthermore, a single model of safety glasses does not comfortably fit all facial structures. Starting this summer, EHS is rolling out, on a department-by-department basis, an eye protection initiative.

Impact safety glasses and chemical splash goggles will be available in a variety of models including models designed to fit over prescription eyewear. These will be distributed free of charge for all Princeton University researchers and facilities personnel. As a bonus gift, EHS will also be distributing lanyards so that your safety glasses will always be close by. EHS professionals will be on hand to ensure proper fit and comfort. Please be on the lookout for advertised dates and times in your area.



## Where should I dispose of this pipette?

Laboratory glass and plastic waste items that are not considered [sharps](#) can puncture regular waste bags and injure our janitorial staff.

Laboratory glass and plastic waste includes the following items:

- micropipette tips
- serological pipettes
- test tubes
- swabs/sticks
- other contaminated items that do not fall under the definition of [sharps](#)

If these items have not been in contact with materials that contain infectious agents, including human and non-human primate-derived material, or recombinant/synthetic nucleic acid molecules, place into sturdy cardboard boxes that will not weigh more than 25 pounds when full. Label boxes with

the room number and seal the box with packaging tape and clearly label as "Laboratory Glass." Place the Laboratory Glass box next to the regular trash container for pick-up by janitorial staff was regular trash.

If these items have been in contact with potentially infectious materials, there are several acceptable practices for collection, treatment and disposal:

- Collect items in a sharps container and autoclave when container is  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. Dispose of autoclaved, locked sharps container into the regulated medical waste container.
- Pipette washers or 5-gallon buckets may be lined with a biohazard bag and used for pipette segregation. When the bag is full, pipettes can be treated by autoclave and then disposed of into the regulated medical waste box. Do not over fill the box.
- Waste pipettes may also be collected in a receptacle containing disinfectant (i.e., pipette washer) at the time of use. A biohazard label and identification of the disinfectant should be on the receptacle. At the conclusion of procedures, the pipettes can be drained and transferred from the receptacle to a biohazard bag for treatment by autoclave. Place into regulated medical waste container for disposal.

## This Month's Waste Disposal Drop Off: Wednesday, June 24, 2015

### Lewis Thomas loading dock (Mol-Bio, Genomics, PNI)

- Collection room open from 2:00 - 4:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Michael Fredericks](#) (8-1351)

### Jadwin Loading Dock Building (Chemistry & Physics)

- Chemistry collection open from 9:00am-10:00am
- Physics collection by appointment
- Coordinators: [Philip Fairall](#) (8-3913) for Chemistry and [Jim Kukon](#) (8-4364) for Physics

### E-Quad Room 7 (E-Quad and Bowen)

- Collection room open from 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Joe Laskow](#) (8-4739) or [Joe Palmer](#) (8-4706) & [Phil Curry](#) (8-4563)

### Hoyt, 185 Nassau

- Collection by appointment. Contact [Kyle Angelo](#) (8-2711)

## EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS

Main Office	8-5294
Kyle Angjelo	8-2711
Steve Elwood (Chemical / Radioactive Waste)	8-6271
Tom Drexel (Waste-Paper)	8-6255
Jackie Wagner (Infectious Waste)	8-6256
EHS Web Page <a href="http://ehs.princeton.edu">http://ehs.princeton.edu</a>	