



Custodians, building engineers, skilled trade workers, and other non-research personnel frequently perform work in laboratories containing hazardous materials. You have the right to know the nature of the potential hazards present in these labs.

All labs should have the yellow caution sign seen below posted near the entrance(s) to the rooms. Lab supervisors are responsible for filling in emergency contact information near the bottom of the placard. Below that, contact numbers are listed for the WSU Police and the Office of Environmental Health & Safety (OEHS).

Follow these general recommendations when servicing labs:

- Review hazard signage and enter labs only when necessary, preferably when lab personnel are present, and only touch things when it is necessary in the completion of your task.
- Don't touch anything that you suspect may be dangerous until you are comfortable that you have complete information about the potential hazard.
- Don't work alone if you are doing anything that requires extended time and/or direct work on equipment or systems. A member of the lab staff should also be present.
- If you are working on a chemical fume hood, the lab staff is responsible for removing all items and decontaminating all surfaces before you begin your work.
- Wear gloves when pulling trash, fixing equipment, or handling anything you suspect could be contaminated.
- Wear safety glasses or goggles when there is a risk of a hazardous materials exposure to the eyes.
- Wash hands before exiting lab if you have touched anything or if at any time you believe they are contaminated, even if you've been wearing gloves.
- Notify lab supervisor and your supervisor when inappropriate waste disposal is found (i.e. sharps in regular trash)
- If you suspect there has been a spill or release of hazardous material, alert others, remove yourself from the area, and get to a safe location to report the situation. The lab staff should determine whether to clean-up spill or request "outside" help from the OEHS.
- If an exposure occurs, wash the affected area with soap and water. Exposures to the eyes should be immediately treated by flushing at an eyewash station. Notify your supervisor immediately and seek medical attention if necessary.
- Use common sense! Ask questions and notify supervisors with your concerns. Remember, you have a Right-To-Know!

CAUTION



ADMITTANCE TO AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

| CONTACT | NAME | LOCATION | PHONE | DEPARTMENT |
|---------------------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| FOR ENTRY OR ADVICE | <i>Dr. V. Frankenstein</i> | <i>Rm 6222</i> | <i>248 333 4412</i> | <i>NATURAL SCIENCE</i> |
| IN EMERGENCY | <i>S. Igor</i> | <i>Rm B029</i> | <i>313 577-3933</i> | <i>NATURAL SCIENCE</i> |
| IN EMERGENCY | | | | |

DATE POSTED _____ Office of Environmental Health & Safety:7-1200 After Hours: _____ ROOM NUMBER _____
 Health Physics & Radiation Control:7-1200 WSU Police 7-2222

Hazard Warning Signs for Laboratories

These are some of the most common labels you will see on lab doors. For information about a hazard that is not shown here, contact OEH&S at 577-1200.

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|  <p>STANDARD POSTING FOR ALL LABS</p> <p>Eye protection is required of all personnel working in the laboratory to protect eyes from exposure to chemical or physical hazards, or potentially-infectious materials.</p> <p>You should wear goggles if experiments are being done while you need to work in the area, and whenever you are mixing cleaning products</p> |  <p>STANDARD POSTING FOR ALL LABS</p> <p>Absolutely NO eating or drinking is allowed in any laboratories at ANY time.</p> <p>Even closed containers of beverages such as soda, juice, water, etc. are not allowed in labs.</p> <p>Eating and drinking in laboratories is a violation of federal law.</p> |  <p>STANDARD POSTING FOR ALL LABS</p> <p>Lab personnel are required to wear protective clothing such as lab coats, gloves, etc. while performing experiments. It is primarily for their immediate protection while working.</p> <p>Protective clothing is NOT required for anyone not in immediate danger of spills, splatters, etc.</p> |  <p>Flammable liquids and solids are used in many labs on campus. When not in use, these materials should be kept in flammable storage cabinets.</p> <p>It is usually safe to enter these rooms, but if you are doing any task that may create a spark or static electricity, look for this label BEFORE beginning the task and make sure it is safe to proceed.</p> |  <p>Corrosive materials have an extremely high or extremely low pH and can cause severe damage to skin and eyes.</p> <p>This label will be on labs, but also on storage cabinets inside labs where the chemicals are kept.</p> <p>Examples of corrosives are sulfuric acid, also called battery acid and sodium hydroxide, also called lye.</p> |  <p>Radioactive materials or waste are used or stored in this lab.</p> <p>Work areas are cleaned and tested for radioactivity regularly by lab personnel for everyone's safety.</p> <p>DO NOT collect or handle bags or bins that have the radiation symbol on them.</p> |
|  <p>Biohazard labels are placed on laboratories, refrigerators, freezers, incubators and regulated waste containers that hold potentially-infectious materials.</p> <p>Work and storage areas for these materials are to be properly cleaned and maintained by lab personnel to ensure everyone's safety.</p> |  <p>Some labs use organisms, such as cells, bacteria or viruses that pose a moderate risk of causing diseases in humans.</p> <p>These labs are inspected regularly for proper use and storage of these organisms, and to ensure a safe environment for everyone who enters the lab. Discuss with your supervisor any concerns you have regarding entering these labs.</p> |  <p>OSHA classifies certain chemicals as cancer-causing. Any area where these chemicals are used or stored will have this warning label.</p> <p>The risk of exposure to these chemicals is low for anyone not actually working with them. In most cases, basic protective clothing, such as gloves, is all that is necessary to protect NON-LAB staff.</p> |  <p>Some chemicals can quickly cause illness in humans or are dangerous in very small amounts. The biggest risk is to the researcher working directly with the material.</p> <p>This sign will be posted outside the lab and inside the lab on storage cabinets where these chemicals are kept.</p> |  <p>Electrical hazards are present in labs that have exposed or unguarded electric power sources.</p> <p>These labs may be anywhere on campus, but are most common in the physics and engineering buildings.</p> <p>For your protection DO NOT move or handle loose wires or any electronics components.</p> |  <p>Some labs contain chemical or equipment that is very dangerous, expensive or both and no one, but the lab personnel are allowed to enter.</p> <p>If you see this label outside of any lab, DO NOT enter the room without permission from the principle investigator.</p> |