

## **Wayne State University Office of Environmental Health and Safety Services for Research Laboratories**

### ***Environmental Health and Safety***

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS), located at 5425 Woodward Avenue, Suite 300, serves the university in the areas of laboratory safety, biosafety, radiation safety, the collection and disposal of hazardous materials and the enforcement of public health codes and regulations. The office also provides information, consultation and educational services in these areas. Researchers are provided with up-to-date information on health and safety issues, along with safety training information/ scheduled classes, by visiting the OEHS web page. The OEHS web page may be accessed using the following address: <http://www.oehs.wayne.edu/>.

### ***Health Physics and Radiation Safety***

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety's Health Physics staff, administers the Radiation Safety Program, and provides training and support services for authorized users of ionizing radiation and radiation generating equipment.

Radiation Safety Training is required for all faculty, staff and students who wish to work with sources of ionizing radiation and radiation generating equipment at the university. Topics include basic radiation physics, radiation safety procedures, material and machine requisition procedures, radiation detection, contamination control, emergency procedures, record maintenance and waste disposal. Enrollment and further information may be obtained by calling 577-1200 or visiting our web site at: <http://oehs.wayne.edu/radiation/index.php>.

### ***Radiation Safety Committee***

The Wayne State University Radiation Safety Committee establishes rules and policies for the safe and lawful use of ionizing radiation. The Committee provides oversight for the use of ionizing radiation/ radiation generating equipment and grants use authorization to qualified research faculty members. The Committee consists of the Associate Vice President for Research, the Radiation Safety Officer, and authorized users of ionizing radiation/ radiation generating equipment as appointed by the Vice President for Research. All work involving the use of ionizing radiation and radiation generating equipment must first be reviewed and approved by the Radiation Safety Committee.

### ***Right-to-Know***

The Michigan Right-to-Know Law is designed to provide information to employees and employers exposed to hazardous chemicals in their workplace. The five major areas covered under the law are 1) evaluation of hazardous chemicals; 2) labeling of these chemicals; 3) maintaining Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS); 4) training of employees; and 5) written Hazard Communication Plan developed by the employer.

OEHS provides training for all individuals who are exposed or potentially exposed to workplace chemicals. The Laboratory Right-to-Know Law applies to all WSU laboratory settings.

The OSHA Laboratory Standard (Right-to-Know Law) is designed to provide information and training and reduce the exposure potential of laboratory workers to laboratory chemicals. The essential component of the OSHA Laboratory Standard is the Chemical Hygiene Plan. This plan requires that all laboratories using particularly hazardous substances have written standard operating procedures (SOPs) and that all employees in the area must follow them. The purpose of a SOP is to specify precisely how any task involving particularly hazardous substances will be carried out. Training for this standard is incorporated into the Laboratory Safety course. For training information, please contact the Program Coordinator at 993-5702.

### ***Safety Data Sheets (SDSs)***

Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) are informational sheets listing the physical properties reactivity, health hazards, environmental impact, etc. of individual chemicals. Each lab must have a chemical inventory list submitted to OEHS. For SDSs, please contact OEHS at 577-1200.

### ***Bloodborne Pathogen Program***

Exposure to blood and other potentially infectious materials is a concern in the work environment because of the ability of these materials to transmit life-threatening diseases such as Hepatitis B and HIV. The Bloodborne Pathogen Program is a comprehensive law that is designed to protect health care workers and others who may be exposed to blood or other body fluids during the performance of their job duties. Individuals governed by this regulation are eligible for a hepatitis B vaccination at no cost to them.

OSHA has determined that anyone with potential occupational exposure to human blood, tissue, body fluids or other potentially infectious materials is considered to be “at risk” and will be covered by this standard. This includes health care workers, researchers, custodians, public safety officers, athletic trainers, childcare workers and others at risk of potential exposure. The Biosafety training course satisfies the training requirements of the Bloodborne Pathogens standard. For training information and for the University Exposure Control Plan, please contact the Program Coordinator at 993-5702.

### ***Institutional Biosafety Committee***

WSU’s Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) recommends policies, procedures and programs for the safe access, handling and disposal of biological and infectious materials. Regulatory compliance and protection of our personnel, facilities, and other resources are integral to this committee’s work. The IBC reviews policies and procedures to assure safe work practices have been implemented and staff have completed required safety training in accordance with the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules (NIH Guidelines) and the booklet Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

The policies developed by this committee are submitted to appropriate administrative offices for approval and implementation. The Environmental Health and Safety Office administers and enforces the policies of the IBC for the university. All faculty or staff members who plan on using recombinant DNA or biohazardous materials, including select toxins of biological origin, for research, teaching, or other activities must submit a user application to the IBC. The Institutional Biosafety Committee will then review the application at their monthly meeting.

Laboratories are inspected on an annual basis by either the Biosafety Officer or other trained OEHS staff members.

Note: You do not need IBC approval for working with human blood, tissue or any other potentially infectious material of human origin. Prions are an exception, contact the Biosafety Officer at 993-7679 for further consultation.

For NIH guidelines, questions about registering your work or copies of the IBC Biological Agents User Application submission forms, please contact the Biosafety Officer at 993-7679 or visit the Biosafety page at: <http://oehs.wayne.edu/biosafety/index.php>.

### ***AniCon***

The AniCon (Animal Contact Occupational Health) Program focuses on health issues that pertain to personnel who come in contact with animals used in research. The AniCon Program provides health and safety services (e.g., educational, training, surveillance, monitoring, record-keeping, etc.) to personnel with animal contact. Some of the goals of the ANICON program are: decrease risk (injuries and illnesses) associated with animal research, provide referral, counseling, educational materials and presentations on zoonotic diseases and other infectious diseases, and promote compliance with health and safety regulatory agencies.

All personnel with animal contact must complete a medical risk assessment questionnaire. Depending upon the occupational risks and baseline health status of personnel, the Occupational Health Specialist may refer personnel for medical services and/or provide health and safety consultation. For more information concerning the ANICON program, contact the Occupational Health Specialist for Research at 577-5917 or visit the AniCon page at: <http://oehs.wayne.edu/anicon/index.php>.

### ***Biological Safety Cabinet and Chemical Fume Hood Certification***

Biological Safety Cabinets and Chemical Fume Hoods require yearly certification. Biological Safety Cabinets (BSCs) are certified in accordance with NSF's standard 49. OEHS will repair biosafety cabinets for a nominal fee. For certification of BSCs or chemical fume hoods, please contact the Environmental Health Specialist at 993-7597.

### ***Laser Safety***

WSU has established a Laser Safety Program and Laser Safety Committee to help protect laser users and others who may be exposed to potentially harmful laser radiation. Lasers emit non-ionizing radiation that, if uncontrolled, could possibly lead to injury. This committee is working with laser users to address real-world safety concerns and develop a user-friendly, effective laser safety program. For more information regarding laser safety, and the registration of your laser (class 3B or 4 only) please contact the Laser Safety Officer at 577-9505 or visit the Laser Safety page at: <http://oehs.wayne.edu/environmental/lasers.php>.

### ***Controlled Substances***

OEHS provides support for the purchasing, inventory/ record keeping, security and disposal of US DEA Controlled Substances (CS) used in university-related research activities. Schedule I through V CS are carefully regulated to prevent misuse and OEHS has been delegated to

provide information and support for their proper use. A State of Michigan CS license and federal DEA registration is required for possession of these materials. Go to: [http://www.oehs.wayne.edu/controlled-ubstances/WSU\\_Controlled\\_Substances\\_Program.php](http://www.oehs.wayne.edu/controlled-ubstances/WSU_Controlled_Substances_Program.php) for an overview of the university's CS program. Contact the Compliance Officer/ CS manager at 993-7679 for more information.

### ***Dangerous Goods Shipments***

Shipment of research materials may fall under federal and/or international shipping regulations. Common research items that are shipped include: dry ice, biological materials (human, animal, bacterial, viral), chemicals, etc. OEHS provides limited Dangerous Goods (DG) training for certain hazardous materials for you to ship biological substances and dry ice yourself. OEHS personnel are trained to ship all hazardous categories of DG, in compliance with federal and international shipping regulations. If you do not know if the material you're planning on shipping is considered a DG, contact OEHS at 577-1200 for assistance.

### ***Hazardous Waste Disposal***

Laboratory personnel are responsible for the collection, segregation, labeling and temporary storage of all hazardous waste generated in their labs. It is also the laboratory's responsibility to notify OEHS at 577-1200 when waste pick up is needed. OEHS will provide containers, tags and guidance to all laboratory personnel concerning hazardous waste disposal. Hazardous Materials training is required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). This topic is incorporated into the Laboratory Safety training course. For training information, please contact the Program Coordinator at 993-5702.

For more information on hazardous waste, please contact the Hazardous Materials Manager at 993-7655 or online at: <http://www.oehs.wayne.edu/hazardous/index.php>.

### ***Electronic Waste***

OEHS provides instruction to properly and safely dispose of unwanted laboratory electrical equipment, such as: centrifuges, incubators, water baths and other cord and plug equipment. Electronic waste (e-waste) is processed by OEHS and the university's Business Operations to be disposed of responsibly. All equipment leaving the lab for disposal must be decontaminated and/ or free of any hazardous agents (chemical, biological, radiological) before it is scheduled to be removed. OEHS also assists in the disposal of other e-waste, such as: computers, monitors, printers, microwaves, and other types of work equipment. Contact the Hazardous Materials Manager at 993-7655 for further information.

Note: Refrigerators and freezers (or any other piece of equipment that has a compressor containing Freon/refrigerant) must be called into Facilities Planning and Management (577-5307) to schedule its disposal. Equipment must be decontaminated and/or free of any hazardous agents prior to pick-up.

Director .....	577-1200
Hazardous Materials Manager/ Associate Director .....	993-7655
Env. Health & Safety Manager/ Associate Director/Biosafety.....	993-7679
Health Physicist/ Radiation Safety Officer .....	577-0019
Assistant Radiation Safety Officer/ Laser Safety Officer.....	577-9505
Program Coordinator (Training)/ Env. Health Specialist .....	993-5702
Compliance Officer .....	993-7678
Occupational Health Nurse-Specialist.....	577-5917