PREPARING FOR A LABORATORY SAFETY INSPECTION

As part of NYU’s environmental compliance program, laboratories are periodically assessed for compliance with environmental and occupational health and safety regulations. **Please ensure that all chemicals, hazardous waste (aqueous or dry) and universal waste (bulbs, ballasts, batteries) are managed properly, including but not limited to:**

- Chemicals are stored safely;
- Spill kits must be readily accessible;
- Chemicals and waste is in secondary containment;
- Compressed gas cylinders must be properly secured;
- Safety signage and FDNY laboratory permits are posted;
- Emergency phone number stickers on all lab phones;
- Safety data sheets are accessible to everyone in the lab;
- All lab personnel are familiar with and trained on lab-specific procedures;
- Chemical inventory must be dated within one year and posted by the door;
- There are no stored old chemicals which could be viewed as “inherent waste”;
- Hazardous waste containers are labeled “Hazardous Waste” with a list of all components, sealed (when not in use) and in good condition;
- Abbreviations List: If abbreviations are used on labels, a list of abbreviations must be posted in the lab;
- Proper labeling of chemicals and hazardous wastes (full descriptions, dates, characteristics, etc.). This include vacuum flasks and small containers stored in refrigerators;
- All chemical and universal waste containers are kept closed; this includes containers for bulbs, ballasts and batteries;
- Housekeeping is good - no clutter, no chemicals stored on the floor, defined work areas, no eating in areas with chemicals, there should be no signs of a spill (liquid or solids), etc.; and
- Training - all those who generate and handle hazardous waste have been trained (EPA Hazardous Waste training) and Laboratory Safety/Hazard Communication training.

For more Information Contact:
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