

General Safety & Waste Disposal Training



**URSINUS COLLEGE
BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

Objectives



- What is the Thomas Hall Research Policy?
- Who do you go to for assistance?
- What are the general safety issues to be aware of when working in the lab?
- How do you handle chemical/biological reagents?
- What do you need to do in case of a chemical/biological spill?
- How do you properly dispose of waste in the lab?

The Thomas Hall Research Policy



- All students will undergo a safety training
- No eating or drinking allowed in the laboratories
- iPods and laptops (or equivalent) can only be used during non-gloved activities
- If you are here in the evenings/weekend you are **strongly encouraged** to bring a buddy!
- Personal protective equipment (goggles, gloves, etc.) are available
- Thomas Hall will be locked between midnight and 6 am.

The Thomas Hall Research Policy – Building Access



- No teaching lab spaces will be available after the normal working day (i.e. after 5pm).
- If students require access to teaching lab spaces after hours, they will be provided with the access code by their PI. Access codes should remain confidential. Access codes will be changed at least once/semester at a minimum.
- Students may only be in research labs after normal working hours (i.e. after 5pm) if their PI has given them permission to do so.
- Students may not be in a research lab doing research between midnight and 6am.



The Thomas Hall Research Policy – Emergency Contact Information



- All lab spaces should be locked when not in use.
- All labs have posted on the door Emergency Contact Numbers.
- The Thomas Hall Safety Officer is Rebecca Roberts. Her office is Thomas 124A.
- The Biology Laboratory Manager is Ann Breen. Her office is located in 126A.
- All faculty and the Lab Manager are good resources for information and help in an emergency.



General Safety



- Be aware of your environment.
- Do not work in the lab if you are tired or impaired.
- Use common sense.
- Know where the First Aid kits, eye washes, emergency showers, and fire extinguishers are located.



General Safety



- NO FOOD OR DRINK IN THE LAB – EVER!



General Safety



- You must wear closed-toed shoes when in any lab.
- No flip-flops or sandals



Protecting Your Eyes in the Lab

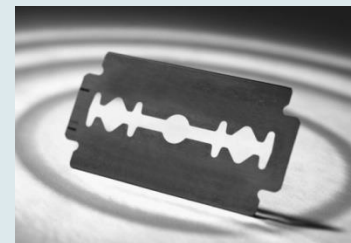
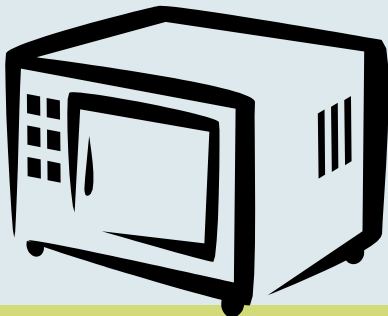


- We comply with Pennsylvania Act 116 of 1965 that states:
“Every teacher, student, visitor, spectator and every other person in the laboratory or is within the area of known danger created by the use of hot liquids, solids, or gasses, or caustic or explosive materials.....shall wear industrial quality eye protective devices at all times while engaged in such activities or exposed to known dangers.”

Physical Hazards



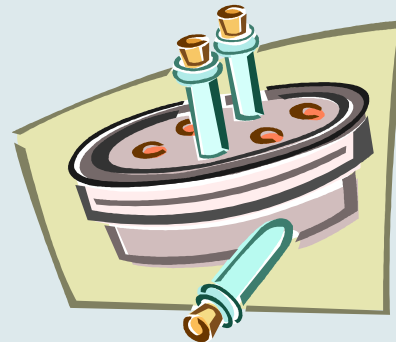
- Be aware of physical hazards in the lab.
- Razor blade accidents and tripping are the most frequent lab injuries.
- Be careful when dealing with high voltage (such as running gels).
- Do not heat closed containers in the microwave.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.



Centrifugation Hazards



- Have someone show you how to use the centrifuge.
- Be sure to use the correct rotor, tubes, and adaptors.
- Do not exceed the maximum speed for the rotor.
- Ensure that the samples are balanced and that the rotor lid is secured.
- Stay at the instrument until it is running smoothly at the desired speed!



Chemical & Biological Safety



- Working safely in the lab is paramount. Prior to working in the lab, you should
 - Know the hazards associated with chemicals you'll be working with PRIOR to the experiment
 - ✦ Read Safety Data Sheets
 - ✦ Read the container label
 - ✦ Consult your professor/mentor
 - Know how to respond if you spill the chemical in the lab or on your body
 - Know how to properly dispose of chemicals
 - Ask questions if unsure

Safe Use of Chemicals – Where to find what you need to know



- **Chemical Hygiene Plan**
- **Safety Data Sheets**
- **Container labels**
- **Your research advisor**

Safe Use of Chemicals – Where to find what you need to know



- **Chemical Hygiene Plan**
 - This document describes procedures, equipment, personal protective equipment and work practices that are used to protect lab workers from health hazards..
 - It is available on the [Environmental Health & Safety](#) page of the Ursinus website.

Safe Use of Chemicals – Where to find what you need to know



- Safety Data Sheets
 - These documents accompany every chemical purchased on campus.
 - They contain important information on handling the chemical and what to do in case of a spill or physical contact.
 - They are located in a binder in the stockroom.
 - They are also online in a searchable database at:
 - <http://www.msds.com/> or type in “Safety data sheets” in the search box of the college website to access the [Chimera safety data sheets](#)

GARDEX CHEMICALS LTD. 7 HERNDON RD. ETOBICOKE, ONTARIO M9W 4Z8 TEL: (416) 878-1638 FAX: (416) 708-1647		MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET REVISION 16, REVISION, INDUSTRIAL DATE PREPARED: FEBRUARY 1, 2002	
SECTION 1 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION AND USE			
PRODUCT NAME:	INDUSTRIAL DEGREASER	PRODUCT NUMBER:	
FORMULA:		FORMULA WEIGHT:	
TRADE NAME:		TRADE NAME:	
USE:		USE:	
SECTION 2 HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS			
INGREDIENTS:		CONCENTRATION:	
HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:		HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:	
HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:		HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:	
HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:		HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS:	
SECTION 3 PHYSICAL DATA			
APPEARANCE:		SMELL:	
BOILING POINT:		MELTING POINT:	
DENSITY:		WATER SOLUBILITY:	
SECTION 4 FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA			
FLAMMABLE:		EXPLOSION LIMITS:	
FLAMMABLE:		EXPLOSION LIMITS:	
FLAMMABLE:		EXPLOSION LIMITS:	
SECTION 5 TOXICITY DATA			
TOXICITY DATA:		TOXICITY DATA:	
TOXICITY DATA:		TOXICITY DATA:	
TOXICITY DATA:		TOXICITY DATA:	
SECTION 6 REACTIVITY DATA			
REACTIVITY DATA:		REACTIVITY DATA:	
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REACTIVITY DATA:		REACTIVITY DATA:	

Safe Use of Chemicals – Where to find what you need to know



- Container labels.
 - This should be your first go-to place for information on how to safely handle the chemical.
- Your research advisor.
 - Always ask your advisor about any safety concerns.



Safe Use of Chemicals – Chemical Storage



- Store solids and liquids separately.
- Don't put acids next to bases.
- Know if a chemical needs to be stored in the hood or in a safety cabinet.
- Put date and lab name on all newly-arrived chemicals.



Safe Use of Chemicals – What if there is a spill?



- If there is a spill of a chemical or biological reagent, don't panic!
- Assess the situation
 - Should you call 911 or Campus Safety?
 - Should you evacuate the area?
 - Is someone hurt?
- Get help – find a professor or Lab Manager. If no one is around, look at the emergency contact sheet near the lab door for phone numbers.

Safe Use of Chemicals – What if there is a spill?



- Check container labels and/or SDS sheets to determine how to clean up the spill or how to deal with physical contamination.
- Work with a professor or Lab Manager to safely clean the area.
- Use spill kits if needed – chemical/biological spill kits are located in Thomas126A (the prep room) and Thomas202 (The Beagle).

Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall



- Many different types of waste are generated in Thomas Hall.
- It is important that all waste is disposed of properly to ensure the safety of people and the environment.
- The [Waste Disposal Table](#) is available on the Environmental Health & Safety page of the Ursinus website.

Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Sharps



- Sharps containers are the red plastic boxes located in each lab.
- Use for syringes, needles, razor blades, contaminated slides and coverslips.
- Removal is through a contractor and should be done when $2/3$ to $3/4$ full or after 1 year of use.
- Date should be on the side of the container.
- Contact Lab Manager in the stockroom if full.



Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Biohazard



- Cardboard boxes lined with red bags.
- Located in rooms 220 and 126A.
- These are for animal carcasses, human blood and bodily fluids.
- They are removed by a contractor.
- Contact Lab Manager if full.

Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Hazardous Chemical Waste



- Bins labeled as “satellite accumulation areas”
- Located in some labs (usually in hoods)
- Use for chemicals that must be removed according to EPA regulations.
- Ask your professor if you use any chemicals that need this type of waste removal.
- Removed by contractor.
- Each lab must maintain a satellite accumulation area. Waste containers are removed for disposal at the end of each semester.

Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Hazardous Chemical Waste



- Hazardous chemical waste removal must be done correctly.
- Any containers in satellite accumulation areas must be labeled (ask the Lab Manager or your research advisor for extra labels).
- All containers must be closed!
- All containers must have a start date listed.
- All containers must have the FULL NAME of the chemical written on the label. (no abbreviations!)

Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

PROPER LABELING IS ESSENTIAL



**You must label
everything with the
date, your
name/initials,
and what it is.**



Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

PROPER LABELING IS ESSENTIAL

But **WHY** do I need to put my name, date, and contents on every solution I make in the lab?

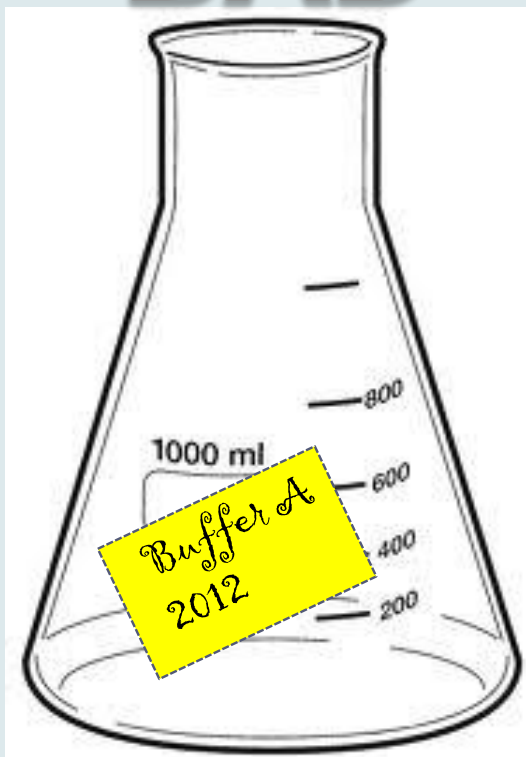
Because if you don't, we have to treat every solution in the lab, even if it's really just water, as a hazardous waste. It costs a lot of money to dispose of unknown solutions!



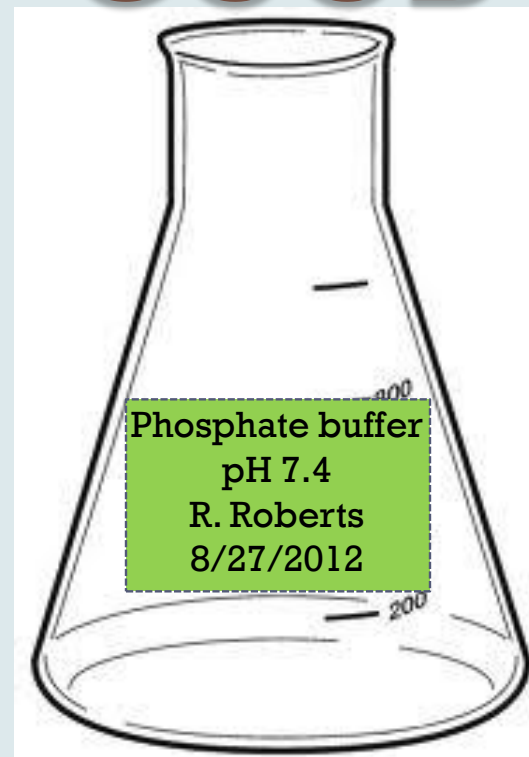
Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

PROPER LABELING IS ESSENTIAL

BAD



GOOD



Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Plastic Lab Waste



- White cardboard boxes in each lab.
- Use these for gloves, plastic pipettes, petri dishes, centrifuge tubes, 15mL and 50mL tubes, etc.
- Do NOT include anything that can't be autoclaved (solvents, ethidium bromide)
- When box is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, remove bag and autoclave
- Reuse box by lining with 2 autoclave bags.



Waste Disposal In Thomas Hall

Broken Glass



- Cardboard boxes in each lab that say “Glass” on them.
- Use for non-contaminated broken glass, slides, cover slips, Pasteur pipettes, etc.
- When box is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, taped close.
- Let the Lab Manager know and obtain a replacement box.



Completing the Training – Taking the Quiz!



- Thank you for carefully reviewing the safety and waste disposal information.
- Please contact your research advisor for the quiz associated with this training. The completed quiz must be on file in the Biology Office.
- The Biology Department hopes you have a safe and productive research experience!