

General Laboratory Safety

The laboratory has information readily available for:

- Chemical spills (online)
- Fire/safety emergency plan (online)
- Standard operating procedures (in lab or online)
- Safety inspection compliance orders received and corrective actions (contact ewong4@uwo.ca)

Laboratory Worker Training

Laboratory personnel working with hazardous materials have received training in the following subjects as required:

- WHMIS
- Laboratory and environmental waste safety
- Substance or task-specific training has been given by the supervisor or designee, including the proper selection, use, and maintenance of personal protective equipment
- Records of training
- Safety procedures are discussed at staff, department, or other meetings and records/minutes are kept of the safety procedures/issues discussed at these meetings

Laboratory personnel have been instructed in the following:

- Emergency assistance phone number: 911
- Location of the nearest fire alarm pull station
- Location and class of the nearest fire extinguisher
- Building evacuation route upon hearing fire alarm
- Location of chemical spill kits
- Fire extinguisher and agent use
- Location and use of secondary exits

Hazardous Material Safety

- All laboratory personnel have ready access to all Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) (online)
- A current inventory of hazardous materials is available which includes the proper name of the hazardous material (online)

Hazardous Wastes

- Information on proper procedures for hazardous waste disposal is available in laboratory (online)
- Employees comply with hazardous waste pickup procedures
- Glass waste is segregated and disposed of separately from general waste

Laboratory Safety

- Laboratory personnel remove hazardous material residues on floors, bench tops
- Laboratory floors and bench tops are uncluttered
- Laboratory aisles are clear of obstructions that may inhibit or block safe exiting
- We don't have easy access to electrical panels, as this is apparently against university policy. Go figure.
- Electrical equipment is plugged into permanent wiring outlets (no extension cords)
- Multi-plug fused power strips are used if permanent wiring outlets are not available
- Electrical equipment or power strips with frayed or damaged cord insulation or plugs are repaired or discarded
- All electrical equipment is certified or approved acceptable to the Electrical Safety Authority of Ontario
- Belts, pulleys, and other exposed moving equipment parts are guarded
- Electrical terminals are guarded
- Equipment is serviced to ensure that it functions safely

Personal Protective Equipment

- Laboratory personnel use suitable personal protective equipment
- Safety glasses with side-shields are worn at all times, goggles and face shields are used as required
- All laboratory personnel receive instruction on proper PPE selection
- All laboratory personnel know how to select, use, and maintain equipment to protect eyes, skin, and respiratory system
- All laboratory personnel know to remove contaminated protective clothing such as lab coats in the laboratory before leaving

General Emergency Preparedness

- Emergency instructions are posted
- An emergency phone contact list is posted in the laboratory and a copy kept elsewhere
- Chemical and fire emergency instructions are posted

- Hazardous signs are posted as required by UWO Sign Book
- Staff knows to call 911 for all types of emergency

Occupational Health

- Position Hazard Communication Form has been completed for each employee and graduate student and filed with Staff/Health Services