

Lessons Learned



An incident recently occurred at a nearby University involving a researcher mistakenly putting acetone into a waste bottle containing nitric acid. This can result in an explosion.

Several students at Texas Tech were hospitalized in 2015 following a similar incident.

Make sure incompatible waste containers are separated and clearly labeled.

[Need to report a lab incident?](#)



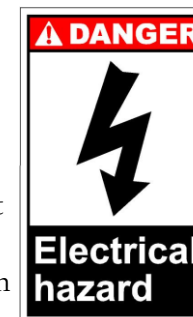
The Micro Gram

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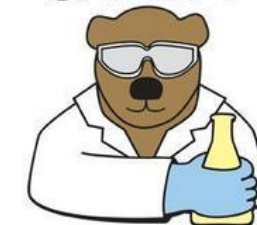


Prevent Lab Electrical Hazards

- Worn out wires should be replaced
- Minimize extension cord use
- Always dry your hands before using electrical equipment
- Unplug cord by pulling the plug, not the cord
- Unplug all electrical equipment when not in use
- All electrical equipment should be three prong grounded
- Never poke anything into outlets



SAFETY



IS PART OF SCIENCE

got waste?

If you have waste, contact EHS through:
Work Order (503-725-2fix) <http://pdx.edu/facilities>

DO NOT carry waste in hallways, stockpile in lab, or bring directly to EHS or Chemistry Stockroom.

Waste includes:

- Used or unwanted chemicals
- Items contaminated with biological or radioactive materials
- Sharps
- Discarded laboratory glassware
- Batteries, light tubes/bulbs
- Used Oil

Environmental Health & Safety
SRTC 144, ehs-gram@pdx.edu Portland State UNIVERSITY

Chemical Storage Tips



- Always check SDS for proper storage procedures
- Label/date all chemical containers properly
- Minimize storage on the lab bench, in fume hoods, and other work areas
- Use first-in, first-out system (oldest chemicals first)
- Use secondary containment when necessary
- Inspect stored chemicals often for expiration, deterioration and chemical integrity

New Training!

Do you work with formaldehyde in your lab?
Contact EHS to find out how you can sign up for the online training module.



FORMALDEHYDE

MAY CAUSE CANCER
CAUSES SKIN, EYE AND RESPIRATORY IRRITATION

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

Make sure you get the training done annually!



Have a suggestion for a lab safety topic?
Email: lindsah@pdx.edu



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News from Environmental Health & Safety at PSU
<https://www.pdx.edu/environmental-health-safety/>