Lessons Learned



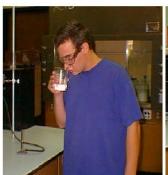
A flash fire in a high school chemistry teaching laboratory occurred from the mixing of boric acid with ethyl alcohol. The fire lasted 4-5 seconds and caused chemical burns to the professor and 17 students. The school was evacuated.

This occurrence was upgraded from an incident to an accident, due to the severity.

Always know where your closest exit is and what to do in case of an emergency.

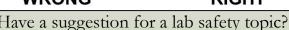
Need to report a lab incident?

Never directly **smell** a chemical. Use your hand to **waft** the vapors toward you.









Email: lindsah@pdx.edu





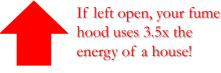
The Micro Gram Volume 1, Issue 3 Spring Edition May 17th, 2018





When unattended:

Shut the Sash!





Try to keep the sash in the green whenever possible. Fully closed is always best!

Upcoming Chemistry
Stockroom Safety Training:

May 25th, 2018 9:00am-12:00pm

Sign up: Safety Training form



Be Aware of Peroxide Forming Chemicals:

Potentially explosive peroxide crystals can form in certain chemicals, such as Ethyl Ether or Tetrahydrofuran (THF), if they are retained past their expiration date.

- Be aware of how to properly store and handle peroxide forming substances. <u>Contact EHS</u> if you have questions.
- Purchase quantities that will be used before the expiration date,
- Store peroxide forming chemicals in containment trays away from heat and direct light.
- Periodically inspect containers of signs of peroxide formation. If you need peroxide test strips, contact EHS.
- Dispose of peroxide formers by placing a <u>work order</u> for waste pickup before the expiration date.
- For containers that do not list an expiration date, dispose within two years of purchase date.
- <u>Do Not Move</u> expired peroxide formers.
- <u>Do Not Open</u> expired peroxide formers.
- Do Not Open or Move a container if crystals or a precipitate can be seen.





Message From the Chemical Hygiene Committee

Tips for Proper Storage and Labelling of Chemicals

- Limit quantity of hazardous materials stored in lab
- Maintain an accurate inventory of all chemicals
- All chemical containers must be clearly labeled, ideally with a chemical label printed by the Chemistry Stockroom





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

Click on images to learn more