

## Upcoming Lab Safety Trainings:

April 10<sup>th</sup> 2026 10:00am-1:00pm

May 1<sup>st</sup> 2026 10:00am-1:00pm (Field ed.)

Sign up: [Safety Training form](#)

TRAINING



# The Micro Gram

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The premier research safety newsletter for the PSU campus community.



## Lab Safety Awareness Winner: Please Congratulate Kaleb Hood!

This Winter, EHS hosted events to honor the annually celebrated Lab Safety Awareness Week. Part of the festivities included a lab makeover photo challenge. It was stiff competition, but ultimately Kaleb Hood won in regards to the hard work he has put in to cleaning up and reorganizing one of the lab spaces in Ondine.

Now, a little about Kaleb. Since joining the Dr. Jun Jiao group as lab leader and as a PhD candidate, Kaleb has aimed to keep their labs as clean and organized as possible. From Kaleb's perspective, "When all of the students are on the same page about how supplies and equipment are stored, we know what resources we have available, where to find them, and how to best avoid accidents. We do our best to keep the lab clean, but there is always room for improvement and for better organization!"



Here are some words of wisdom that Kaleb shares with new members of the lab:

- A clean lab is a safe lab.
- Assume any clear liquid in the lab is concentrated hydrochloric acid.
- Take good notes and label your experiments so we can always identify them later.

Thanks, Kaleb! We appreciate all of your hard work and dedication to being a wonderful role model!

## Remember: We Are All In this Together!

Stay informed and help make important decisions in regards to lab safety topics that directly impact you and your lab mates.

Sign up to join the conversation by being a [Laboratory Safety Lead](#)! Find out more about the program by checking out the website or by reaching out to [ehs-group@pdx.edu](mailto:ehs-group@pdx.edu).



**SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.  
WHEN EACH PERSON IN THE LAB DOES THEIR PART, THE LAB IS A SAFER PLACE TO WORK.**

- Avoid working alone in the lab. Notify others if solitary work cannot be avoided and have someone periodically check in.
- [Review standard operating procedures and follow them.](#)
- Review chemical Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and be knowledgeable about the hazards of the chemical being handled and waste disposal.
- [Frequently check hazardous waste accumulation storage areas and arrange for disposal as needed. Avoid accumulating large amounts of hazardous waste.](#)
- A clean lab is a safe lab! Keep areas tidy and organized.
- [Include safety topics in your lab, school, and departmental meetings.](#)
- EHS is here to support academic community in safely achieving their research goals.

## Compressed Gas Safety

- Regularly inspect tanks, regulators, and hoses for leaks, corrosion, cuts, bulges, and other defects
- Separate oxygen and other oxidant gases from fuel-gas cylinders
- Close valves and secure caps when not in use
- Verify all cylinders are properly labeled
- Only transport in carts designed for that purpose
- Ensure that the correct regulator is being used for the gas and cylinder type

### Did You Know?

A punctured or heavily damaged compressed gas cylinder is akin to an unguided missile

### Cylinders must be kept

- In an upright position
- Secured to permanent anchor points
- In a well-ventilated area away from heat, electrical current, and high traffic areas



Have a suggestion for a lab safety topic?  
Email: [lindsah@pdx.edu](mailto:lindsah@pdx.edu)



Click on hyperlinks to learn more

[News from Environmental Health & Safety at PSU](#)