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For broadcast from EHS (Skye Kelty):

1. Biohazard

1. New Biosafety Officer started in May 2024! Please direct biosafety concerns to [Maria Piccone](mailto:maria.piccone@sjsu.edu) as they come up: maria.piccone@sjsu.edu OR the biosafety@sjsu.edu email address.
2. Transitioning to [RSS SOP documentation for training](#) by Nov 30. Set up a consultation with Skye Kelty if you are worried about meeting this deadline.

2. Chemical Hygiene

1. **EPA methylene chloride (dichloromethane) ban** will impact chemistry-heavy labs and a few workshops. Chemical Hygiene Officer Skye Kelty will send an invitation to join a SJSU working group to address this ban out to folks with this chemical in their current inventory. Final EH&S guidance on this topic is expected over Winter Break with full compliance by Mar 2025. About 15 labs/shops are impacted-- including a large impact to Chem teaching labs.
2. **Biological specimen labeling:** based on OSHA investigation at a sister CSU, we need to update our labeling approach for biological specimens. Each specimen container needs to note the fixative used and the storage solution. Labels must each note: chemical name (in full), concentration, and hazard properties (flammable, toxic, etc). We are expecting this to impact the Biological Science dept museum, Moss Landing Museum, and some research labs. EHS has an intern that can provide support for labs/museums with substantial specimen collections. Reach out to Chemical Hygiene Officer Skye Kelty to set up a consultation.
3. **Legacy waste removal:** This academic year, we are working on removal of **unnecessary SJSU-owned gas cylinders** (primarily oxygen & acetylene). If any Oxy-acetylene welders need gas-- please contact Skye Kelty to access some excess inventory. For details about why we are worried about old cylinders, please check out the info in the compressed gas SOP.
 1. Update from 2023-24: initiatives to remove legacy controlled substances and mercury were extremely successful. Thanks to everyone that helped us remove these legacy materials! We were able to recycle a lot of the mercury in July 2024 -- no update about the final statistics yet, but some safety staff removed containers over 100mL and legacy equipment that had !OPEN! mercury reservoirs. Most safety staff removed over 100 mercury thermometers in their domain!
4. Transitioning to [RSS SOP documentation for training](#) by Nov 30. Set up a consultation with Skye Kelty if you are worried about meeting this deadline.

1. **Lasert Safety month will now be in Nov** instead of Dec based on popular demand. Save the date for inspections, authorization renewal, and SOP updates.
 2. Transitioning to [RSS SOP documentation for training](#) by Nov 30.
4. **General**
1. **EHS Office Hours reminder:** Office hours are extended to assist with RSS SOP transitions and risk assessments: **Additional EHS office hour time is available Mon 11-2, Tue noon-3, Wed 10-1 this semester.** Other times available upon request. RSVP to skye.kelty@sjsu.edu
 2. New EHS_____. Let ehs@sjsu.edu know if you have an idea for another one!
 3. FDO is on a **seismic bracing campaign** for labs/shops- please work with safety staff during your Fall 2024 inspections to check your lab/shop.
 4. **Hallway door signs** are nearly in full compliance. If you don't have a door sign or your door sign is inaccurate, please fill out this [form](#). Depts can also email Skye Kelty directly if they need to make more global updates (like a change across a whole dept due to chair/tech transition).
 5. Safety staff were surprised during the past semester of inspections to find that lab/shop supervisor knowledge of **personal protective equipment (PPE) replacement and laundering pathways** was poor in some dept/colleges. Please work with your dept to make sure all new PIs are informed about dept PPE practices. EHS staff are available for consultations to help select safe PPE and conduct risk assessments. Dept/college leadership should be contacted for questions about budget & logistics. EHS insights are available under "personal protective equipment" section of this website:
https://www.sjsu.edu/fdo/services/ehs/resources-and-training/one_page_lessons.php
 6. **Most common violations from 2023-24:** Across the college, the last round of lab inspections revealed non-compliance concerns for each of these concerns in over 50% of inspection reports. We are hoping to see better compliance during the next round of inspections. EHS and your college safety staff are available for consultations as needed.
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