

# Winter Term 2022 Safety Memorandum

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The Departmental Safety Advisory Group met on February 28, 2022. Important items discussed at that meeting are shown below. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Michael W. Burand (DSAG chair) or any other member of the Group for assistance.

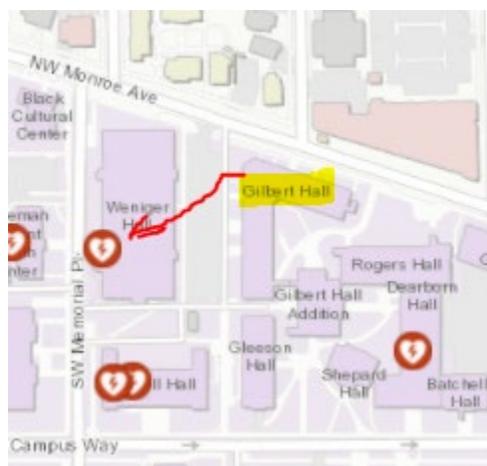
## Appropriate PPE in Research Laboratories

The Departmental Safety Advisory Group advises researchers in OSU chemistry laboratories to wear goggles—*not safety glasses*—in all laboratories where chemicals are being actively used. Goggles offer superior splash protection, and their use is in line with best practices in chemical research laboratories. Furthermore, researchers should also use a face shield for added protection when using pressurized gasses, particularly hazardous chemicals, and when heating glassware, etc. For additional information please see <https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/PPE>.

## Fire Alarm Pull Stations and AEDs

OSU Fire and Life Safety Officer Jim Patton reminds everyone working in Department of Chemistry buildings that they should take a moment to ensure they know the location of the nearest fire alarm pull station and automated external defibrillator (AED). Knowing the location of these items in advance can save crucial moments when an emergency arises. AEDs are located in Weniger Hall (for Gilbert Hall) and Withycombe Hall (for LPSC):

<https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/aed-map>



### Reminder: Laboratory Injuries and Proper Response (includes updated link)

All personnel are reminded of the following important points when dealing with injuries in the laboratory:

- If the injury is serious, call 911 immediately (if using a campus phone, there is no need to dial 9 first, simply dial 911). If in doubt, it is *always* better to err on the side of caution and call 911. If it is later determined that emergency services were not needed, there will be no repercussions for having called them.
- If someone intends to walk to Student Health Services to seek treatment for an injury, that person *must be accompanied*. It is never acceptable to allow a student or a TA to walk to Student Health Services unaccompanied, even if the injured person objects.
- If transportation to Student Health Services is needed, call Public Safety to arrange this.
- In the case of an injury, an accident report must—by law—be filed within 24 hours (or sooner, depending on the severity of the injury). Go to <https://risk.oregonstate.edu/workerscomp> and follow the instructions provided.
- If injury was avoided but there is still a concern, complete a near-miss report, available at [https://oregonstate2-gme-advocate.symlicity.com/public\\_report/index.php/pid685763](https://oregonstate2-gme-advocate.symlicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid685763).

### Reminder: Chemical Spill Protocol (from J. Paul, EH&S) (includes updated link)

Please review the following information regarding chemical spills:

- Know where the spill kit is and what its contents are.
- If the spill is one gallon (about 4 L) or less of a low-hazard material (for example, ethanol) and you feel comfortable cleaning the spill safely, you can do so using a designated spill kit.
- Avoid cleaning up a spill using anything other than the contents of the spill kit.
- Anything highly hazardous, or in greater than one gallon (about 4 L), Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) *must* be called at 541-713-SAFE (7233) to assist with the cleanup.
- If you are uncomfortable cleaning *any* amount of a chemical, EH&S is happy to come help; call 541-713-SAFE (7233).
- Spill cleanup materials must be disposed of properly.
- Report all spills as near misses on the HR Advocate webpage: [https://oregonstate2-gme-advocate.symlicity.com/public\\_report/index.php/pid685763](https://oregonstate2-gme-advocate.symlicity.com/public_report/index.php/pid685763).

### Reminder: Laboratory Self-Assessment Form

Research groups are strongly encouraged to complete a self-assessment form on a regular basis (quarterly is recommended). The form is available at

[https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/sites/ehs.oregonstate.edu/files/pdf/laboratory\\_safety\\_assessment.pdf](https://ehs.oregonstate.edu/sites/ehs.oregonstate.edu/files/pdf/laboratory_safety_assessment.pdf).

Although it may be efficacious to designate a specific employee to complete this, it is most effective if all employees and the PI actively participate in the assessment process.