Radiation Safety Newsletter

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Radiation Safety Training Dates

Radiation Safety Orientation
Gatch Hall (CL) 154
- Wednesday, November 10, 2011  1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
- Tuesday, December 7, 2010   9:30 am to 11:00 am

Radiation Safety Course
Gatch Hall (CL) 154
Monday, January 10, 2011 to Friday, January 14, 2011  8:30 am to 10:30 am

Please Mark These Dates...

The Radiation Safety Office will be closed for university holidays on the following dates:
- Thursday and Friday, November 25, 2010 and November 26, 2010
- Friday, December 24, 2010
- Friday, December 31, 2010
- Monday, January 17, 2011

Please keep in mind when placing orders and scheduling waste pick-ups.

Training

All new radioactive material users, including temporary personnel (e.g., summer students, interns, etc.), and individuals previously approved who have left the university or have not been listed on a permit for a period of two years or more are required to attend the Radiation Safety Orientation. A completed Radiation Safety A-3 form, Authorization to Use Radioactive Materials, should be submitted to the RSO prior to the initial use of radioactive materials. This form can be obtained from our office or from our website. After receiving this form, our office will send an email notification to register for the next orientation. Please make sure to register on-line to confirm adequate classroom space for all attendees. In addition to attending the orientation, all new radioactive users with inadequate training/experience with radionuclides must attend the Radiation Safety Course. Temporary employees (i.e., individuals working in a lab for less than 6 months) are required to complete the orientation but not the course. These individuals must be supervised during their work with radioactivity.
Sharing Radiation Surveys

Occasionally, some laboratories who use the same area or equipment in a given room choose to appoint one lab as the primary surveyor. While this is acceptable to the RSO, a few key requirements must be in place:

- A copy of the survey must be placed in the survey book for each individual Permit Holder.
- The survey must be comprehensive to include all radionuclides used and all areas where radioactive material was used or stored.
- If the primary surveyor is not active in a given month and chooses to forego the survey, each laboratory is responsible for reassigning the survey for that time period to prevent a lapse in surveys.

Please keep these points in mind when you decide how surveys will be addressed for shared areas.

Radionuclide Inventory Records

Our office requires that every PH keep an up-to-date inventory of their radioactive material. We ask that you enter in all receipts, disposals, and transfers. As a note, a disposal is defined as the removal of waste from your lab by the RSO staff (not when you place material in a wastebox). You should keep a separate inventory sheet for each radionuclide, summing the various chemical forms for the nuclides. For example, $^{32}$P dCTP and $^{32}$P ATP should be inventoried together as a total $^{32}$P activity.

Waste Schedule

As a reminder, our office will not be picking up radioactive waste on Thanksgiving (November 25th) and also there will be no pick-ups between Christmas and New Years (the week of December 27th). Please keep this in mind when scheduling your pick-ups.

In the next few weeks, the new waste pick-up schedules will be emailed to all Permit Holders to cover January through June 2011. Please forward it to the appropriate personnel. This information will also be updated on our website.

Winter Delays

With the winter season approaching, problems arise with receiving packages on time due to inclement weather. Problems not only arise locally but also in the originating city. Keep this in mind when planning experiments and placing orders.

Cut-Off Times

As a reminder, all radioactive materials must be ordered through our office. The cut-off time for ordering is 3:00 pm. Any order placed after 3:00 pm may not be ordered that day.

In addition, the cut-off time for scheduling a waste pick-up is 3:00 pm the day before the pick-up.

Find us at our website:

http://radsafe.iusm.iu.edu