August 2022

Safety Beaver Buzz



NEW @ EHS

Two New Oregon OSHA Permanent Rules:

- 1. The Heat Illness
 Prevention Rule,
 effective 6/15/22,
 applies to workplaces
 when the heat index is
 80°F or higher. Certain
 exemptions apply to
 personnel who work
 within buildings. See the
 EH&S High Heat
 webpage for more
 information.
- 2. The Wildfire Smoke Rule, effective 7/1/22, protects workers from unhealthy levels of wildfire smoke. The rules apply to OSU employees who may be exposed to wildfire smoke where concentrations of PM2.5 is at or above 35.5 ug/m3 or 101 AQI. Supervisors can monitor air quality related to their operations utilizing the EH&S Wildfire

Diving and Small Boat Safety



Do you dive or operate small craft as part of your job? Then you are required to get your work reviewed and approved in advance. So, reach out to the Diving and Small Boat Safety Office!

www.research.oregonstate.edu/diving
Boating for fun? Then prepare the right way
https://www.oregon.gov/osmb/boater-info/Pages/Preparation.aspx



The Importance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)

- Encourages employees to think through the process beforehand.
- 2. Produces reliable results.
- 3. Improves employee training and management.
- 4. Finds holes in the process.
- 5. Increases safety and efficiency. EH&S has an SOP template library.



Dealing with old equipment is one of the biggest challenges when shutting down or upgrading a laboratory. EHS has information and resources for those looking to dispose of these old items or to place them into surplus.

For more information see our Safety Instruction on Equipment Clearance.

Avoid Stinky Sinks and Drains

A p-trap is a u-shaped plumbing device that prevents odorous gasses from rising up from sink and floor drains. Water in the p-trap acts as a barrier preventing sewer gasses—which give off a rotten egg odor—from escaping.

Odor concerns related to dry p-traps are frequently found in campus lab drains that are hidden, rarely used, or uncapped. Odors from a dried p-trap can be easily remedied by pouring water down the drain. If drains are prone to drying out frequently, pouring a small amount of mineral oil down the drain after filling it with water will act as a barrier to the water evaporating.



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