

CHEMICAL SAFETY MOMENT

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Lessons Learned from Laboratory Inspections

Laboratory inspections are a time to learn ways to enhance the safety of our laboratories. Many of the images below were STAGED to demonstrate questions received by EHS and areas for improvement during inspections.

Open chemical waste containers



Issue found (L to R): lab trash lid propped up, hole in lab trash lid, funnel left in liquid waste, open 5-gal bucket used for lab trash.

Cracked or Missing PPE



Damaged or missing PPE cannot be used to protect workers.

Chemicals in poor condition, missing Full Names or SOPs



Issue found (L to R): corroded/damaged cylinder, old/open chemical bottle, chemical abbreviation used, abbreviation used for highly toxic chemical.

Evaporating Solvents in a Hood



Considered "treatment" and is a violation of EPA regulation.

Clutter, open chemicals, used gloves, exposed sharps



Issue found: Housekeeping. A dirty lab leads to exposure risk. Keep it clean!

Storage Compatibility issues



Review chemical storage guidelines.



@UDelEHS

Safe Science is Good Science!