



SAF•T•GRAM

“A gram of safety is worth a pound of cure!”



Daylight Saving Time

Sources: <http://www.ou.edu/oupd/springforward.htm>
http://www.ok.gov/homeland/News/2009/December_2009/Preparedness_Holiday_Gift_Ideas.html

Daylight Saving Time ends and standard time begins November 7, 2010 at 2:00 A.M., with clocks moving one hour back.

Each year when this happens, make it a habit to not only change your clocks, but do a few other semi-annual tasks that will **improve safety in your home**.

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- ✓ **Check and replace the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms.** Replace any smoke alarms older than ten years. Replace any CO alarms older than five years. Remember to properly dispose of these batteries:

Oklahoma City Household Hazardous Waste Facility
http://www.okc.gov/services/hh_waste/index.html

Norman Household Hazardous Waste
<http://www.recyclenorman.com/hhwd.php>

Tulsa Household Hazardous Waste
<http://www.cityoftulsa.org/environmental-programs/recycling/household-pollutants.aspx>

- ✓ **Prepare a disaster supply kit for your house** (water, food, flashlights, batteries, blankets). Once you've created your home disaster kit, use the semi-annual time change to check its contents (including testing/replacing flashlight batteries).
- ✓ **Make a "winter car-emergency kit" now** and put it in your vehicle! According to the Oklahoma Department of Homeland Security, some items to include in your kit are a first aid kit, food, water, extra clothing, blankets, flashlights, emergency flares, shovels, ice scrapers, and fluorescent distress flags.

“In 2007, there were an estimated 399,000 reported home structure fires and 2,865 associated civilian deaths in the United States.”

.... www.nfpa.org

Updated OUHSC/OU-Tulsa Infectious Diseases Policy

The updated OUHSC/OU-Tulsa Infectious Diseases Policy was signed by Dr. Ferretti and Dr. Clancy on October 6, 2010. The revised policy may be found at <http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/policies/2010ifp.pdf>.

A summary of the changes are as follows:

✓ Vaccination requirements for new employees.

For new employees, all vaccination/immunization/blood test/skin testing records required by this policy **must be completed by and on file with the appropriate Employee Health office within ten (10) days of employment**. Within 30 days from the date of hire, required vaccination/immunization/titering requirements identified as deficient by the appropriate Employee Health office must be initiated. The vaccination/immunization/titer/skin test requirements must be completed prior to the end of the specified University employment orientation period, or within six (6) months, whichever is sooner, unless the employing department requires a shorter time period for compliance.

✓ Modification of chicken pox requirements.

CDC now says, "Receipt from a healthcare provider of a) a diagnosis of chickenpox or herpes zoster (shingles); or b) verification of a history of chickenpox or herpes zoster (shingles)" is required whereas previously only a verbal statement from the employee that he/she had chicken pox as a child was required. These CDC requirements have been incorporated.

✓ The addition of pertussis to the recommended vaccinations/immunizations.

CDC now says, "healthcare personnel who work in hospitals or ambulatory care settings and have direct patient contact should receive a single dose of Tdap as soon as feasible if they have not received Tdap." OUHSC Employee Health will update employees as they are seen for other issues at Employee Health.

✓ The incorporation of the use of the Interferon Gamma Release Assay (IGRA) for persons who have previously been vaccinated with BCG.

All on-line training programs have been updated to reflect these changes. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Cheri Marcham (cheri-marcham@ouhsc.edu) or Bob Farringer (robert-farringer@ouhsc.edu).

Safe Holiday Decorations

Sources: <http://www.ouhsc.edu/police/CrimePrevention/HolidayDecorations.asp>
<http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso-tulsa/HolidayDecorations.asp>
<http://www.ou.edu/oupd/decorate.htm>

The holidays are coming. Here's a reminder about the safe use of holiday decorations.

- ✓ Only those materials labeled "non combustible", "flame resistant", or "flame retardant" should be used. Materials that should not be used include cornstalks, cotton (including batting or balls), confetti (loose, in large quantities), dry moss, leaves, tumbleweeds, straw (loose or baled), sawdust, wood bark, shavings, dry ice and open-flamed candles, tiki lamps, etc.
- ✓ Decorations should not block, or obscure equipment, fire extinguishers, doors, corridors, exits, stairwells, emergency lighting, or EXIT lights, or be placed near any heat source.
- ✓ Decorations should be removed as soon as possible after the event for which they were used, and prior to the campus closing for the Winter Holiday Break period.
- ✓ During the Winter Holiday Season, especially, it is recommended that decorative, empty gift wrapped boxes be placed under the tree. Actual gifts may be lost through theft or damage.

"Working safely may get old, but so do those who practice it."



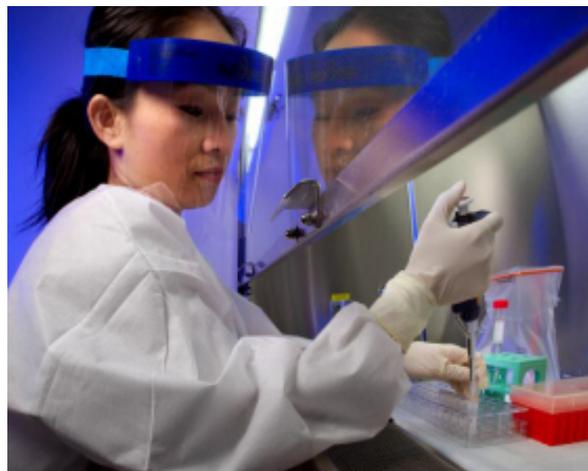
LAB SAFETY CORNER

New Biological Safety Cabinet Vendor

The EHSO has coordinated with Purchasing to establish a new contract effective July 1, 2010 with ENV Services, Inc. to provide certification of biological safety cabinets on campus. When your cabinet is due, contact the new vendor at 1-800-690-3368, extension 1276 (Kyrie Dabbs) or kdabbs@envservices.com to arrange certification.

The prices for annual certification are as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Type A (recirculates filtered air into the room) | \$95 |
| Type B (exhaust is ducted to the outside) | \$115 |



Laboratory Safety Manual Updates

Periodically, the EHSO reviews and updates the Laboratory Safety Manual. The October, 2010 Laboratory Safety Manual updates may be downloaded at:

OUHSC/OU-Tulsa - <http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/labman/2010Update.pdf>

OU Norman - <http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/Normanlabman/2010updates.pdf>

Please print these updates and insert/replace the pages in your current manual according to the instructions provided.

Surplus Chemicals

Don't forget! In an effort to reduce waste at the University (saving \$\$\$ and other resources), the EHSO has established a surplus chemical program. These chemicals are in good shape, mostly unopened, and available free of charge to **University departments**. For a complete list, visit the OUHSC EHSO website at <http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/SurplusOKC.htm> or Norman EHSO website at <http://www.ouhsc.edu/ehso/SurplusNorman.htm>.



Don't learn safety by accident.

The Saf•T•Gram is published by the University of Oklahoma Environmental Health and Safety Office

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