

Winter 2021 COE Safety Newsletter

Focusing on Chemical Inventories

As labs are updating [door cards](#) for 2021, it is a good time to review chemical inventories. A review of your chemical inventory is a prime opportunity to evaluate your chemical holdings and clean out ones that are old or unwanted.

All labs are required to maintain a chemical inventory including, at a minimum, the chemicals outlined in the [UW-Madison Chemical Hygiene Plan](#). In practice, it is highly recommended that labs keep a complete inventory of all chemicals. An accurate inventory is necessary to assist emergency responders as well as fulfill regulatory requirements.



Keeping an up-to-date inventory has many benefits:

- Save money and space by reducing or eliminating unnecessary purchases
- Save time by maintaining appropriate stocks
- Increase efficiency by making chemicals easier to locate
- The removal of old and excess chemicals increases lab safety by reducing clutter, lowering overall hazard levels, and decreasing the likelihood of chemical issues in the lab.

Inventory information should be updated whenever a new chemical is added to the laboratory. Chemicals that have been used or disposed of should also be removed in a timely fashion. Your inventory should be reviewed and reconciled annually. EHS continues to make weekly chemical pickups arranged through the [EHS Waste Disposal](#) webpage.

COVID-19 and Research Updates

- COE Safety will continue to provide and distribute disinfectant spray, paper towels, hand sanitizer, facemasks, and face shields throughout COE buildings into the Spring Semester. COE Safety will also provide gloves to labs unable to acquire them through MDS. Use the [CoE Smart Restart Ordering Form](#) for all items.
- Labs looking to train new users on equipment should be using the [COE in-person training procedure](#) for the safety of all lab occupants.
- If you are working on campus or using campus facilities and services during the spring semester, you will be required to be tested for COVID-19. At a minimum, you will need to have tested negative within the previous eight days prior to coming to campus. For more information on testing and other spring COVID-19 operations at UW, check out UW's [Spring Semester 2021 Overview](#).



Stay Safe Badgers!