

Lab Safety Tips

Environmental Health, Safety, & Risk Management
Stephen F. Austin State University

- Eyewashes should be flushed weekly and documented on eyewash tags



Properly label chemical waste with specific contents

- Keep label attached to the container at all times
- Keep chemical waste containers closed
- Always replace old and deteriorated labels



Fume Hoods

- Chemicals fumes hoods should be kept closed whenever possible
- Maintain the minimum possible opening when working
- Do not store chemicals in fume hoods



- Do not store, consume food or drinks in labs or in any place where hazardous materials are either present or used
- Food and chemicals should not be stored in the same refrigerator



- Do not wear shorts or open-toed shoes in labs
 - Wear appropriate personal protective equipment when working in labs where hazardous materials are present
- Remove clutter and practice good housekeeping
- Do not use cell phones, Bluetooth, and MP3 players while working in the lab



- Never leave an open flame unattended. Know the location of the nearest fire extinguisher
- Do not keep or work with flammable substances near a flame
- Emergency equipment should be clear of obstructions
- Have appropriate spill supplies available and follow response procedures



- Glass chemical bottles should not be stored on the floor
- No lab equipment or chemicals in corridors
- Eliminate extension cords and power strips in series. No exposed wiring
- Keep exists and aisles clear of obstruction

