

Chemistry Safety Notes

Volume 7, Issue 2

Winter 2020

"Chemistry Safety Notes" is published by the Chemistry Dept. Safety Committee, written & edited by Debbie Decker, Safety Mgr.

Department Self-Inspection

Beginning January 22 and continuing until we're done, Guoliang and I will be inspecting department laboratories and shops. Our (tentative) schedule will be Mondays, 1:30-4:30; Wednesdays, 9:00-noon; and Fridays, 9:00-noon and 1:30-4:30.

If you would like to schedule your inspection, please reach out to GL at brizhang@ucdavis.edu to set an appointment. Otherwise, we'll just start at one end of the department and work our way to the other. It is very important the laboratory safety representative be present but PIs and other interested parties are always welcome. We will have guests from EH&S along on some inspections as a way to standardize and share best practices.

Evacuation Routes & Gathering Points

Since construction continues to evolve around the complex, exiting and evacuation routes continue to be re-configured. A new evacuation gathering point has been added, north of the Chemistry building and east of Rock Hall.

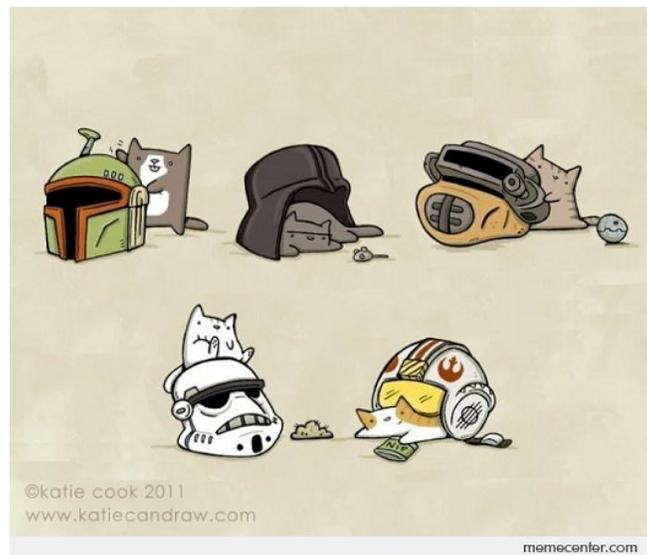
- A. Stone Poem sculpture (known colloquially as "Stonehenge")
- B. Grassy knoll nearest PSE Library and Roessler Hall
- C. Grassy area at the end of the sidewalk (don't worry—the lovely ginkgo tree is protected but it's not very accessible right now)
- D. The bike parking near Hutchison Dr.

A new evacuation map has been created (see page 3), incorporated into the Department's [Emergency Action Plan](#) and posted on the website. Please update your records and train everyone on new gathering points, if necessary. You should post the new evacuation map and highlight the lab's gathering point.

New Emergency Call-Down List

Please replace the blue one with the new, pale orange list. Based on feedback from the Franz lab, the list has been reconfigured to make it easier to read and to get in touch with the right person when need arises.

There is a supply in the mail/copy room and on my door—3467 Annex.



Hazardous Waste Management

We've gotten a little sloppy in hazardous waste management as several issues were recently brought to my attention.

Please remember the following:

1. Label every container. If it's a hazardous waste container, it **must** have a hazardous waste label on the container when the first drop of waste goes in. This 5 gallon carboy is full of liquid and has no label on it.



2. Containers must be kept closed, except when adding or dispensing material from the container.

3. Don't overfill containers. It makes it difficult and dangerous for those who take away our waste to manage. This glass waste box is too heavy for even a hand truck to safely move without the box failing.

Empty 5-Gal Can Management

Empty 5-gallon cans must be recycled through Environmental Health and Safety. Deface the label, mark the container "empty" with the date, take the cap off and leave it near the Receiving door on the dock. EH&S will collect them when they pick up waste on Wednesday.

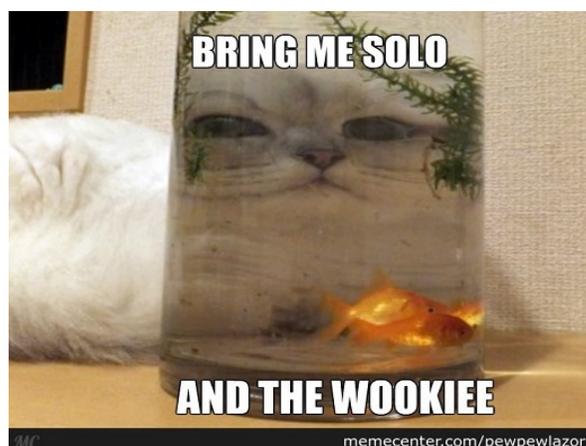


SOP Review/Annual Training

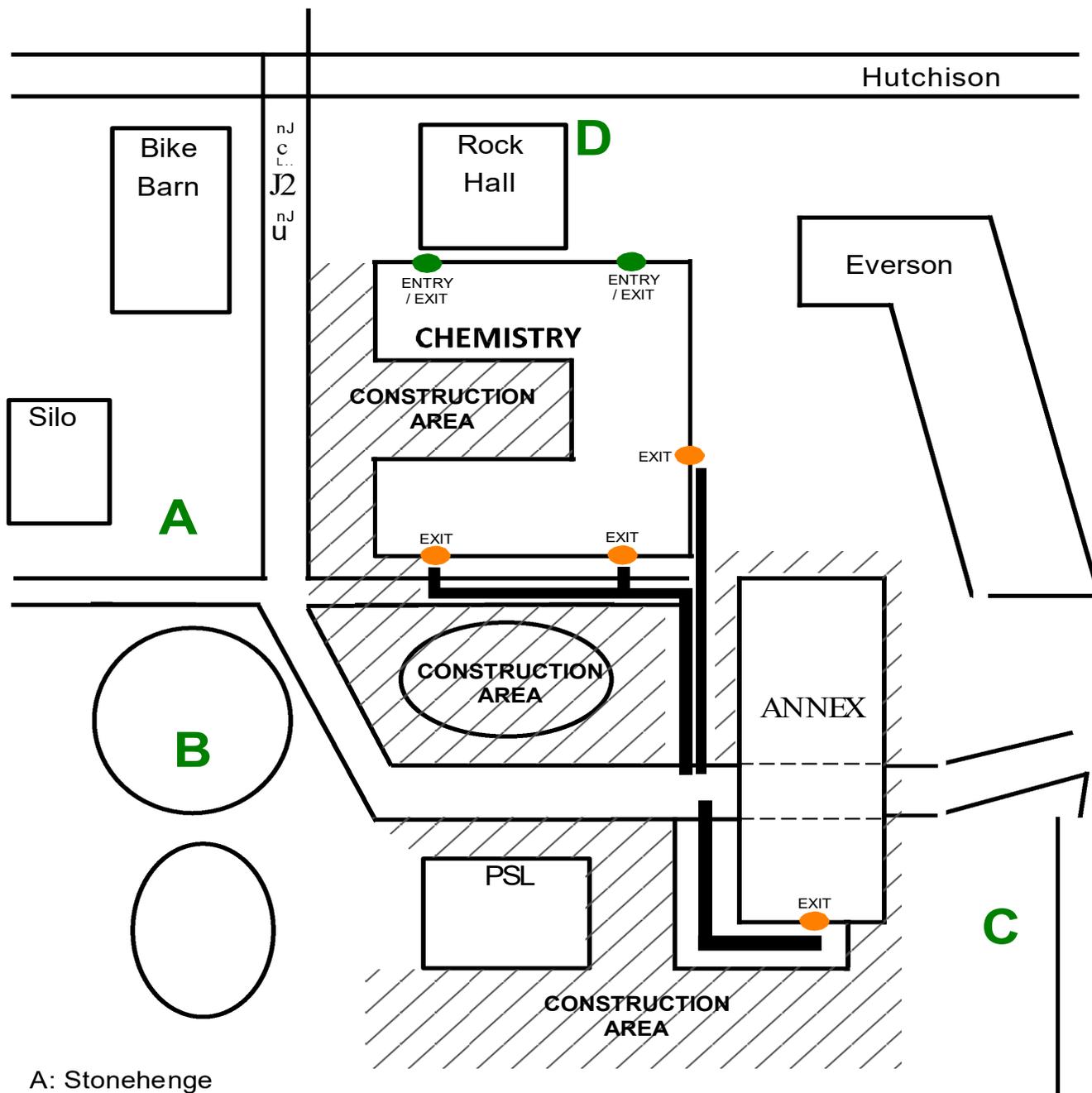
It's time to review your SOPs and make sure they accurately reflect current lab practice and the chemical lists are up to date. It's also time for refresher training on SOPs, if you haven't done it in the past year.

The revision page in the SOP template is a good place to document the review and any updates.

This is also a good time to update annual training, including the IIPP, EAP, campus Lab Safety Manual/Chemical Hygiene Plan, and your lab-specific Lab Safety Plan.



Department of Chemistry Research Laboratory Evacuation Meeting Points



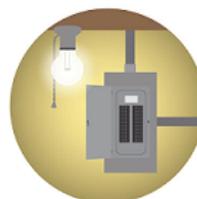
- A: Stonehenge
- B: Grassy Knoll (between Chem, PSL, and Bainer)
- C: East side of Chem Annex near Gingko tree
- D: East side of Rock Hall (Bike racks next to Hutchison)

Be fire smart

with **electricity** throughout your home.



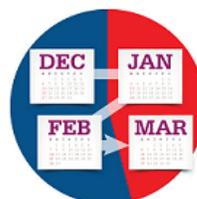
There are **more than 45,000** home electrical fires each year.



About **half** of these involve lighting equipment or home electrical wiring.



Home electrical fire deaths peak between **midnight and 6 a.m.**



Peak months for electrical fire deaths are **December through March.**

Plug only **one** heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, space heater, or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.



Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them.



Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.

For more information about electrical fire safety, visit www.usfa.fema.gov and www.nfpa.org

U.S. Fire Administration

