



Safety Matters

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We need you!
Work Safely

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Environmental Health & Safety
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INRF Safety Celebration

The Integrated Nanoresearch Facility (INRF) recently held their first "Safety Celebration" in appreciation for researchers working safely within INRF and to promote and encourage safe work habits.



David Crosly, Albert Eberhardt, Jake Hes, Vu Phan

The INRF, at the School of Engineering, is a clean room facility used by 200 researchers from UCI, UCR, UCSD and industry to develop engineered microsystems. Their safety record can be credited to mandatory safety training for all researchers prior to working inside the clean room and continuing discussions of safe work practices during their weekly technical meetings. Congratulations to the INRF staff, headed by Jake Hes, and to all the researchers for making safety their first priority!

EH&S Rewarding Safe Acts Program

EH&S has recently started a program that instantly recognizes and rewards safe acts and behaviors by people on campus. The program goals are to reduce accidents and injuries by increasing awareness of unsafe behaviors and acts and to recognize positive safety contributions. Starbucks gift cards, provided by UC Office of the President as part of the "Be Smart About Safety" program, are given to faculty, staff, and students who have been observed:

- Demonstrating superior safe behavior;
- Identifying and resolving an unsafe situation or condition that may have caused an accident or injury; or
- Engaging in safety-focused activities that foster a safe working environment for everyone on campus.

Rewarding Safe Acts Awardees:

Greg Brewer and Anthony Ahue – HVAC Maintenance;
Supervisor: John Lindsey

Safe Act: Greg and Anthony have been committed to solving an air pressurization issue in Gillespie. One problem is wild microbes infecting the rodent colonies; another is cage odor escaping the vivarium. They have been reviewing original blueprints and crawling around in the duct areas to solve these problems. Several discoveries have been made as a result of their hard work.

Mike Prock – Building Maintenance; Supervisor: Amy Provorse

Safe Act: Mike suggested that EH&S/Human Resources have the "In Case of Work Accident or Illness" posters be available in business card size. This would allow Facilities Management staff to keep them handy and readily available.

John Young – Shop Stores; Supervisor: Kevin Toth

Safe Act: John identified a trash bin located on North Campus which had some items (sharps and Universal Waste) that were not supposed to be disposed of in the regular trash.

Recipients are limited to receiving a reward two times per calendar year. Work safely and be on the lookout for unsafe conditions or behaviors – you may be rewarded for your actions!

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE ZONE CREW (#8)



The School of Medicine Zone Crew held its annual emergency preparation and planning meeting on August 30, 2006. The 50 plus Zone Crew members who attended the event enjoyed a celebratory luncheon in gratitude for their voluntary service as Building Coordinators and Floor Wardens. After the Campus Emergency Management Coordinator, [Linda Bogue](#), presented the campus Emergency Action Plan, Zone 8 Captain, [Les Gillilan](#), reviewed the specific role that Building Coordinators and Floor Wardens perform in executing an orderly evacuation of buildings during emergencies. Also covered during the meeting were procedures for "Shelter in Place," a strategy used when hazards exist outside the building. The Zone 8 Crew scheduled a series of building drills for the upcoming year to increase skills and confidence and promote awareness of emergency evacuation procedures among building occupants through hands-on exercises.

Please consider volunteering to help on the Zone Crew by contacting your area Zone Captain. More information on the campus Emergency Action Plan, Zone Crews, and the Zone Map is available at: <http://snap.uci.edu/viewXmlFile.jsp?resourceID=1404>.

Another volunteer opportunity to support campus emergency preparedness is through C-SAR (Campus Search & Rescue Program) which offers a series of trainings. The next training series will begin Spring 2007. Visit <http://www.ehs.uci.edu/em/csar/index.htm> for details.

Thanksgiving Fire Safety

According to the U.S. Fire Administration, every Thanksgiving Day, there are about 1,450 residential structure fires that claim 15 lives, injure 41 people, and cause an estimated \$21 million in damage. This is more property damage and lives lost in residential structure fires than any other day of the year. Cooking is by far the leading cause of these fires on Thanksgiving Day (42%), nearly double that of a normal day. The leading factor in the ignition of residential cooking fires is food left unattended.



Fires from turkey fryers, which have become increasingly popular over the last few years, caused 28 fires on Thanksgiving 2002. The Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC) has issued Safety Tips for Turkey Fryers. The news release can be found at: <http://www.cpsc.gov/CPSCPUB/PREREL/prhtml04/04041.html>.

For a fire safe holiday season, follow these precautions:

- Start cooking with a clean stove and oven.
- Keep all appliances in good working order.
- Keep an approved fire extinguisher in the kitchen
- Dress appropriately for cooking. Wear short or tight-fitting sleeves and use caution when working near heat sources.
- Never overload electric outlets and unplug appliances when not in use.
- Have plenty of fire-resistant potholders and oven mitts ready for use while cooking.
- Never leave food cooking unattended.
- Turn pot handles inward so pots and pans won't be pulled or knocked off the stove.
- Keep young children at least three feet away from kitchen appliances when cooking.

EH&S Directory...

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Safety

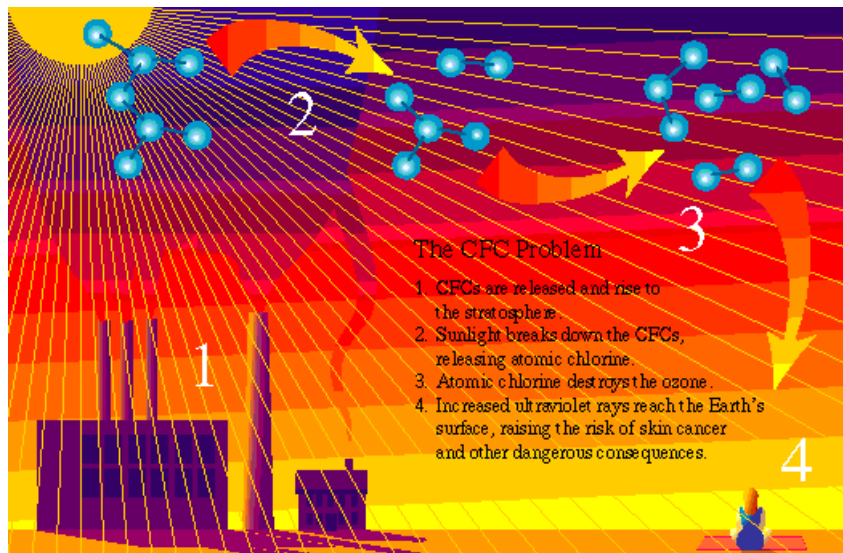
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The Chlorofluorocarbon Issue...

The ozone layer exists 30 miles above the earth, shielding us from dangerous solar ultraviolet radiation. When chlorofluorocarbons are released, they break down our planet's ozone layer, rendering it useless for screening deadly ultraviolet radiation that strikes the earth's surface.



This can result in a variety of adverse health effects for people. Skin cancer, cataracts, and weakened immune systems result from excess exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

Please remember to use caution when defrosting your refrigerator to prevent an accidental release of CFCs into the environment. If you have a refrigerator that requires disposal, fill out a refrigerator pickup request at www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/.

Safety Alert!



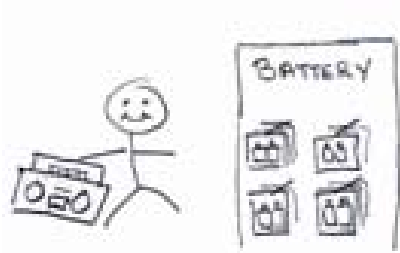
EH&S has received reports of cracking related to low density polyethylene (LDPE) squeeze bottles containing acetone or toluene. These involve Fisher brand LDPE squeeze bottles. Nalgene, the plastic bottle manufacturer, has issued guidance that these plastic squeeze bottles are designed for dispensing only and **not** for storage.

For storage of solvents in plastic bottles, the appropriate type of plastic container for acetone, toluene, MEK, or any aggressive solvent is a polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) plastic bottle. According to Nalgene, PTFE bottles are rated as "excellent resistance with no attack for both acetone and toluene". Please use the following part numbers when ordering replacement 500ml PTFE squeeze bottle : Nalgene part number: 2403-0500 or Fisher catalog number: 034912E.

BENNY'S BATTERY ADVENTURES

Recycle Your Batteries with EH&S

1



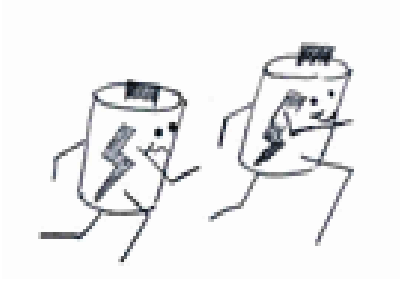
Benny buys batteries for his boom box.

2



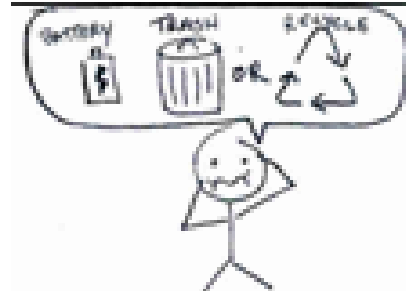
Benny's boom box sure does boom.

3



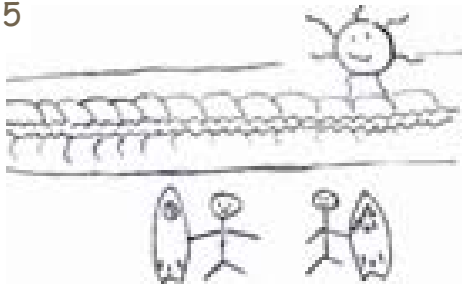
Benny's boom box boomed until his batteries ran out!

4



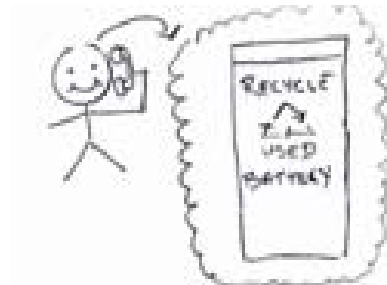
Now Benny has a lot of used batteries. Should he throw them in the trash or recycle them?

5



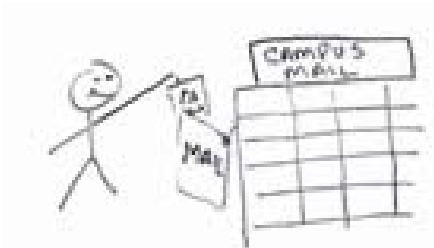
Benny remembered that recycling batteries protects our environment from heavy metal contamination.

6



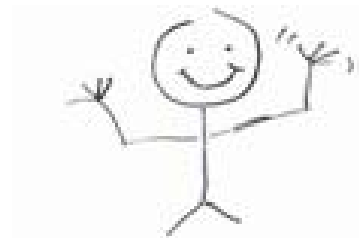
Benny called EH&S and asked for a "Battery and Cell Phone Recycling Bag".

7



Benny filled the bag with his used batteries and interoffice mailed it to EH&S. The bags are pre-labeled so all he had to do was drop and go!

8



Be like Benny - give EH&S a call today and recycle your batteries. The ecosystem will thank you.

Call UCI EH&S at (949) 824-6200