

Safety Matters

Safety never takes a holiday.

Mark your Calendar

December 24-25, 31, 2008

- Winter Holiday

January 1, 2009

- New Year's Day

January 19, 2009

- M.L. King, Jr. Day

February 10-12, 2009

- Business Officer Institute

February 16, 2009

- President's Day

February 20, 2009

- EH&S presents at UCI Leadership Academy

March 27, 2009

- Cesar Chavez Holiday

Workplace Holiday Preparations

With the holiday break and the season where staffing levels diminish due to vacations, consider the following additional preparations for the winter break.

- Plan your contingencies for emergencies which could occur when no one is around (power outages, water leaks).
 - o Does everyone in your work unit have an updated phone list?
 - o Do the emergency (lab) door signs accurately reflect who to notify?
 - o Are all phone numbers up to date?
- Keep doors closed and locked, especially when rooms are unoccupied, to keep thieves from holiday shopping your stuff.
- If you are working over the break, buddy up with someone who could help in case of an accident. Hazardous operations, no matter how carefully controlled, should not be undertaken alone.
- Power off equipment which will not be used during the break. Unplug items which use ghost voltages to display the time or status information which no one will see during the break (i.e. coffee pots, empty incubators).
- Clean out refrigerators and food storage areas of items which could spoil before you get back. The break is a good time to clean/defrost an empty refrigerator/freezer.
- Be careful when leaving in the evening when the campus is dark and fewer people are around. Call (949) 824-SAFE if you need an escort or ride at night.



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- Bicyclists should use a light and wear clothing visible to motorists. Helmets with reflective surfaces are a no-brainer (or at least they help prevent no brains).
- Consider cleaning up before leaving for the break. You will thank yourself in January.
- Turn off building lights.

Have a safe and happy break!

Top Ten New Years Resolutions:

1. Take my safety self-assessment in [TED](#)
2. Put together [emergency supply kits](#) for home, office, and car
3. Recycle all batteries by dropping them into the [EH&S provided bins](#)
4. Stop propping open [fire-rated doors](#)
5. Use my own [reusable cup](#) when buying beverages
6. Turn off [unnneeded electronics](#)
7. Become familiar with my [evacuation plan](#)
8. Learn how to use a fire extinguisher by taking an [EH&S course](#)
9. Reduce or eliminate [one potential hazard](#) in my workplace
10. [Carpool](#)

Thank You to our Safety Partners - Winter 2008

EH&S recently recognized and rewarded the following people for engaging in activities and behavior that foster a safe work environment.

SCHOOL OF PHYSICAL SCIENCES

Earth Systems Science

Steve Beaupre, Neeta Bijoor, Sonja Djuricin, Christine Goedhart, Sheila Griffin, Elizaveta Litvak, Heather McCarthy, Diane Pataki, Amy Townsend-Small, Desiree Vetter, Wenwen Wang, Daschun Zhang, Lori Ziolkowski

Safe Act: Assisted in determining whether the ventilation system maintains a safe and healthy environment for their labs.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUSINESS SERVICES

Facilities Management

Neal Edwards

Safe Act: Brought attention to a water leak which was causing mold and ventilation problems.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Undergraduate Counseling

Teresa Neighbors

Safe Act: Reported an unsafe condition regarding exit paths from the restrooms.

SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Biomedical Engineering

Philip Duncan & Salar Sroori

INP

Alex Berkow

Molecular Biology & Biochemistry

Mahmud Penjwini

Safe Act: These graduate students assisted with demonstrating safe work practices during TA safety training.

Department and Name withheld upon request

Safe Act: Implemented new language into employee contracts which requires completion of their self-assessment in TED.

How to Buy a Green Gift...

- Be thoughtful about your purchases and select items built to last. Even green options don't make good gifts if they end up in the attic or landfill.
- Select products made from recycled or renewable materials.
- Look for fairly traded imports, such as jewelry, housewares, and handicrafts.
- When in doubt, buy food. Organic, Fair Trade Certified, and locally grown foods are a safe bet and usually don't go to waste.

Taken from National Geographic's Green Guide, www.thegreenguide.com

Recycle your live Christmas tree! If you're not sure how or where to recycle your tree, check out Earth911 <http://earth911.com/seasonal/green-your-holidays/> for tips on the tree recycling options nearest you. If you are a city of Irvine resident, you can recycle your tree for free at:
Sunset Environmental Transfer Station
16122 Construction Circle West
Irvine, CA 92606
(949) 451-2600



Congratulations to the Chen Lab!

Pictured below: Chi-fen Chen, Phang-Lang Chen, Rob Steele



Ergo Aid Funds Ergonomic Incentive Program

Ergo Aid is a reimbursement program that provides up to \$100 for purchased ergonomic equipment recommended by EH&S during an ergonomic evaluation. For more detailed information on how to qualify, visit: <http://snap.uci.edu/viewXmlFile.jsp?resourceID=2983>.



Kudos to the Phang-Lang Chen Lab in the Department of Biological Chemistry for completion of Safety-on-Site Milestone 3. Chair Robert Steele presented Regal Gift Certificates (paid from the University's Be Smart About Safety program) to the lab during the weekly faculty meeting. This reward recognizes the work unit's completion of required safety training (Lab Core, Hazardous Waste, Fire Extinguisher, Radiation Safety, Viral Vectors, Annual Safety), and the Hazard Assessment & Corrections for 16 safety topics. For more information visit: www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/iipp/

Holiday Word Search Puzzle

Can you find the hidden words/phrases in the puzzle below? Words may be horizontal, vertical, diagonal, or backwards.

C O O K I N G D C B D I C T T
 U T O Y O N O I G E U E H G V
 E R G O N O M I C S N L R F W
 G A E E F I W O T M P D I Y I
 N I K C K T R I L A L N S U E
 I N X I Y A S I N R U A T B N
 P I D J T C L G W T G C M J E
 P N H I X A L F R A E R A D W
 I G O Y Y V Z E W B F R S V Y
 H N M I S T L E T O E D I Q E
 S I C S T H G I L U N B Y F A
 E T H G W U E Z N T G S A U R
 C A R P O O L X S S F U D T V
 I M N E R E W O P A D G I E C
 Y T U O E K A H S F R W L M A
 R S D R O P C O V E R H O L D
 D R A Z A H Y U E T R S H E V
 O E M E R G E N C Y L L O H A

BE SMART ABOUT SAFETY

- | | |
|-----------------|------------|
| CANDLE | LIGHTS |
| CARPOOL | MISTLETOE |
| CHRISTMAS | NEW YEAR |
| COOKING | POWER |
| DECORATIONS | RECYCLE |
| DROP COVER HOLD | RED |
| DRY ICE | RESOLUTION |
| EASY | SHAKE OUT |
| EMERGENCY | SHIPPING |
| ERGONOMICS | SNOWFLAKE |
| EVACUATION | TRAINING |
| FIRE | TREE |
| FOOD | UNPLUG |
| GREEN | VACATION |
| HAZARD | WINTER |
| HELMET | |
| HOLIDAY | |
| HOLLY | |



Holiday Fire Safety Tips

The holiday season is a time when families and friends come together to celebrate. During this season, there is also an increase in the usage of holiday lights, decorations, candles, Christmas trees, and other potential fire hazards. Here are some tips to help minimize the risk of fire and other injuries.

Christmas Trees

- When purchasing an artificial tree, make sure it bears the "Fire Resistant" label.
- When purchasing a natural tree, buy the freshest one you can find. A fresh tree is green, the needles are hard to pull from the branches, and when the trunk is tapped on the ground the tree shouldn't lose too many needles.
- Make sure the tree is placed at least three feet away from any heat source (i.e. fireplaces, radiators, candles or heating vents.)
- Keep the tree stand filled with water at all times



Holiday Decorations

- Use lights that have the label of an independent testing laboratory and inspect them for frayed wires, gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, and excessive kinking or wear before use.
- Do not link more than three strands of lights together unless the directions state that it is safe.
- Do not overload the circuits.
- Do not leave lights on unattended.



By following these tips, your family and friends can enjoy a memorable and safe holiday season.

We are on the map & on the web!

Winter 2008

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