





What a WASTE!

Chemical (x2907)

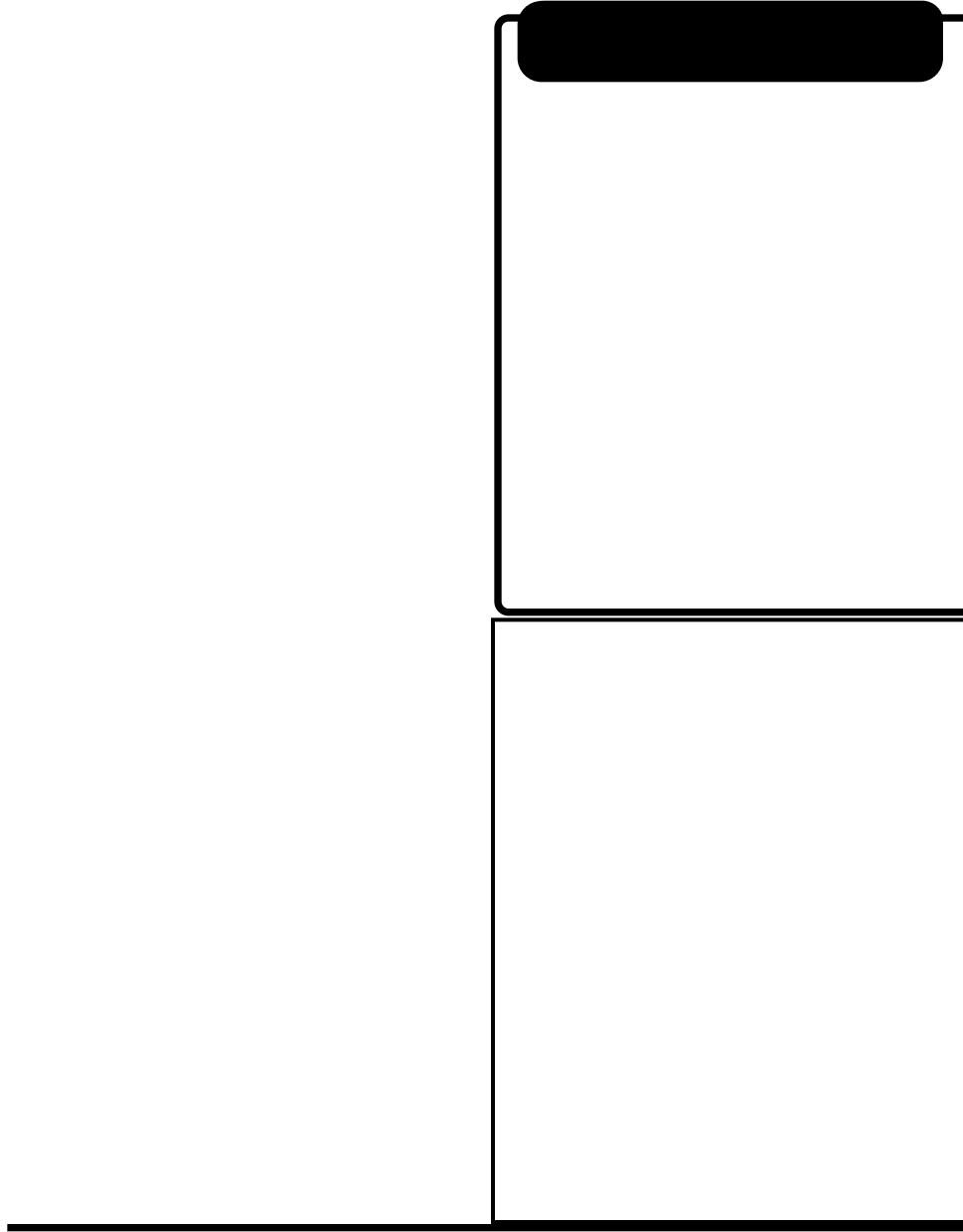
•**OSHA Lab Standard:** Mondays 1-3 (Service Building Conference Room)

Bloodborne Pathogen (x2907)

•**New Training:** Mondays 3-4 (Service Building Conference Room)

•**Rad. Lab:** (Service Building Conference Room) Jan.10(1-2),24(1-2)

Don't forget: rad re-training is now also ONLINES 0.25 w BT



(continued from page 1)

directive was published in December 1991, the variety of engineering controls was limited.

This new OSHA directive outlines and propogates the “significant medical advances” that have been made in the past seven years. Highlights include:

- Annual Review of Exposure Control Plan — employers must ensure that their plans reflect consideration and use of commercially available safer medical devices.
- Engineering Controls and Work Practices — emphasizes the use of effective engineering controls, to include safer medical devices, work practices, administrative controls, and PPE.
- Emphasizes that employers should rely on relevant evidence in addition to FDA approval to ensure effectiveness of devices designed to prevent exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
- Adds most recent guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control on vaccinations against the Hepatitis B virus. Incorporates CDC’s guidelines on post exposure evaluation and follow-up for HIV and the Hepatitis C virus. **REMINDER:** All CWRU employees (**including students**) must get or officially decline the hepatitis-B vaccine if they are considered at-risk to bloodborne pathogens. If you have not been vaccinated and think you may be at risk, contact us immediately. If you have further questions, check CWRU’s official vaccination policy (with downloadable forms) at [w](#)

CARTOON

A Cautionary X-mas Tale

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all that was stirring...was a worker cleaning a transgenic mouse cage. Since relatives were coming over to see the lab the next day, a labworker decided to clean the cage (which was technically a **Type IIA** biosafety cabinet--see pg.2). He decided to HEPA vacuum the bedding that had fallen beyond the foam prefilter under the BSC work surface. He turned the cabinet motors off.

Now on this particular cabinet, lighting is provided by a fixture attached to the glass sash. When the hinged sash is opened outward (for cleaning), the fixture moves with it, leaving the interior poorly-lit.

Since he couldn't see inside, the worker decided to turn on the "purple light," and worked with his head inside the cabinet for about 20 minutes, vacuuming as well as applying a chlorine-dioxide releasing disinfectant.

Later that evening, the worker had to go to the hospital with extreme eye and face irritation coupled with burning sensations. Instead of visions of sugar plums dancing *in* his head, the worker had a substantial sunburn *on* his head, which caused profuse peeling and discomfort. He fully recovered, but made up some lame story about a last-minute trip to Florida so that his friends and co-workers wouldn't question his sunburn.

Needless to say, they didn't believe him.

Holiday Safety

Tips

With the holidays approaching, be aware of increased fire hazards. Here are some safety measures to keep in mind:

1. Decorations must be flame-proofed or made of non-flammable material.

2. If decorating a live tree, be sure to:

- use a fresh evergreen that has been treated with a flame retardant.
- equip it with a tree stand that can hold water at the base of the tree; keep it full.
- remove the tree prior to closing for break.

No electrical equipment or devices are permitted on or under trees; only indirect lighting may be used. Nor are candles or open flames allowed on, under, or within 10 feet of the tree.

***NEVER leave a flame of any size unattended SEVERAL recent fires at CWRU have started this way. Be vigilant over ALL flame- and heat producing elements!**

3. If using a metallic tree or decoration, do not place electrical lights or objects on it.

4. Decoration materials must not be exposed to light bulbs, heaters, or other heat or flames.

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