Sun Safety in the Workplace

Many OSU students and workers spend time working outdoors and this increases exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation, putting individuals at a greater risk of sun damage and the potential of developing skin cancers. Did you know skin cancer is preventable? Unfortunately, the dangers of skin cancer have been neglected. The sun contains UV radiation, which causes skin cancer and premature aging of the skin.

OSU students and workers should use extreme caution working outdoors in the sun especially if any of these physical features are present:

- Numerous, irregular, or large moles
- Freckles
- Fair skin
- Blond, red, or light brown hair

Steps to protect from exposure to UV radiation:

- Lather on the sunscreen - Generously apply sunscreen, approximately 1 ounce to cover all exposed skin, ears, scalp, lips, neck, tops of feet, and backs of hands at least 20 minutes before going outside. Select a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of at least 15 to provide protection from both ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays. Reapply every two hours, even on cloudy days, and after sweating.
- Wear protective clothing - Wear light colored protective work clothing with a tight weave or high-SPF clothing, such as a long-sleeved shirt, pants, gloves, and a wide-brimmed hat.
- Seek shade – Seek shade when possible, remember the sun’s UV rays are greatest between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. Take breaks in shaded areas.
- Wear safety sunglasses – Wear safety sunglasses and they should have ANSI Z87.1-2015 certified impact protection rating and both UVA and UVB ray protection.
- Check the UV index - The UV index provides important information to help plan outdoor work activities. Use the UV index app found https://www.epa.gov/enviro/uv-index-mobile-app.

For more information on sun safety, please visit the Center for Disease Control 'What You Need to Know about Sun Safety Video'.

For more information or questions on sun safety please email EHS at ehs@okstate.edu or call (405) 744-7241.
Chemical Inventory Lists

A chemical inventory list is a list of all the hazardous chemicals in a laboratory. Maintaining an accurate chemical inventory list not only aids in smooth laboratory operations, but they are also required by the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200. The standard requires employers to maintain a chemical inventory list of all hazardous chemicals used or stored in the workplace. OSU utilizes the Chemical Safety Assistant online program to track chemical inventories across campus.

EHS requires departments to reconcile their chemical inventory information at least annually. Throughout the year it is the responsibility of Principal Investigator and/or department to maintain current inventory data. This data includes:

- Significant changes in inventory volumes
- Removal of chemicals from the inventory
- Addition of new chemicals to the inventory
- Location changes of chemicals in the inventory

To develop and maintain a laboratories online chemical inventory:

- Fill out the EHS Chemical Online Inventory Access Request form, found on the EHS website, and return the completed form to chemicalsafety@okstate.edu
- EHS will contact the laboratory when the form has been processed and access has been granted
- Reference https://ehs.okstate.edu/online-chemical-inventory.html for detailed instructions on how to navigate the online system
- If an excel spreadsheet of the laboratories chemical inventory exists, EHS can assist with uploading it into the system

For more information or questions about the OSU online chemical inventory please see the EHS website, email EHS at chemicalsafety@okstate.edu, or call (405) 744-7241.