

August 2024

Welcome to the Summer edition of the **EHS Newsletter!** This season, we're diving deep into a range of critical topics to keep you informed and empowered. Inside, you'll find insightful articles covering:

## Upcoming Change in WCM Medical Waste Vendor

Next month, WCM will replace our current regulated medical waste (RMW) vendor, Stericycle, with Daniels Health. EHS will work with labs and practices that generate regulated medical waste ("red bag" and sharps waste) to prepare for the upcoming change.

[Read more...](#)

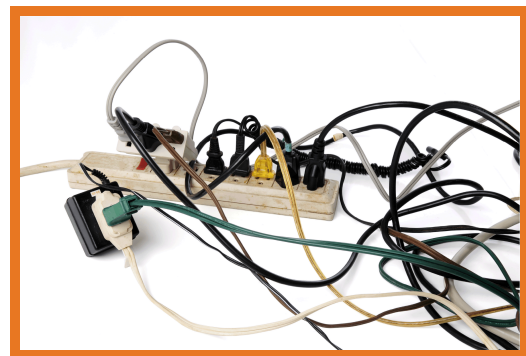


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## With More 'Power' Comes More Need for Safety

WCM employees are always looking for more time, more space, and more electronic capability as we continue to expand. However, safety must be a top priority in a research-based institution where sensitive equipment and a high volume of electronic devices are used.

[Read more...](#)



## Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) FAQs

Review the role of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), receive answers to your most frequently asked questions, and learn about changes to lab and clinical safety protocols.

[Read more...](#)

**Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)**

**About the IBC**

The Well Cornell Medicine Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) is a faculty-led committee of experts in biosafety-related fields established under the NIH Guidelines. The IBC ensures that all research conducted at Well Cornell Medicine (WCM) complies with applicable Federal, State and local health, safety standards and Institutional policies. The IBC provides review and oversight on research involving:

- Recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules and;
- Biological agents classified as Risk Group 2, 3, and 4 in the NIH Guidelines.

**IBC Meetings & Deadlines**

Final Submission	Meeting Date
January 8, 2024	January 17, 2024
February 12, 2024	February 21, 2024
March 11, 2024	March 20, 2024

## How to Prepare Your Lab for the EHS Annual Inspection: A Comprehensive Guide

Annual laboratory inspections are vital for ensuring compliance with safety regulations and maintaining a safe working environment. Principal investigators and lab managers must be well-versed in lab safety standards required to maintain compliance. Please review the [annual lab inspection guide](#) to help your team prepare effectively.



## EPA's Final Ruling on Methylene Chloride

Methylene chloride, also called Dichloromethane (DCM), is a volatile halogenated solvent utilized in various industries and applications such as adhesives, paint, metal cleaning products, and chemical processing. Exposures have been associated with various health risks, and the EPA has banned most uses of methylene chloride. Laboratory research is approved, but strict guidelines must be followed to ensure protection.

[Read more...](#)

**EPA** United States Environmental Protection Agency

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**Assessing and Managing Chemicals under TSCA**

**Fact Sheet: Methylene Chloride or Dichloromethane (DCM)**

[Download PDF](#)

- Q1. What is Methylene Chloride or Dichloromethane (DCM)?
- Q2. How is methylene chloride used?
- Q3. What uses of methylene chloride did EPA evaluate?
- Q4. What are the potential risks to people?
- Q5. What action is EPA proposing to address the risks from methylene chloride?
- Q6. Why is EPA taking action on the occupational uses that are also the jurisdiction of OSHA?
- Q7. What products containing methylene chloride are available to consumers?
- Q8. Are there specific names of products that contain methylene chloride?

## Veena Sahajwalla: Leading the Future of Sustainable Recycling

Veena Sahajwalla, an esteemed inventor and Professor of Materials Science in the Faculty of Science at UNSW Australia, has redefined the recycling landscape through her inventive approaches that transform waste materials into valuable resources.

[Read more...](#)

As we embrace the warmth and energy of summer, we wish you a safe and productive season ahead. Happy Labor Day!



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