Happy Holidays

2013 To Do List...

1. **Radioisotope Permit Application:** All permits expire on December 31, 2013. If your lab has not already done so, complete the application form that was sent to Permit Holders the first week of December and return to EHSO. Your renewed Internal Radioisotope Permit will be sent to you December 20th. Once received, please post the new permit in all listed Approved use Locations.

2. **Personnel Registration and Consent Form (PRCF):** Along with completing the permit application, everyone listed on the application must complete the new version of this form.

2014 To Do List...

3. **Reconciliation:** The Annual Reconciliation for all open source permits with radioactive inventory will be mailed out early in the New Year.

4. **2014 Waste calendar for Banantyne only:** has been sent with this newsletter. The first waste day of the new year is Thursday, January 9. Please post the calendar or place in an accessible location.

New Staff with the EHSO and the Radiation Safety Team!

- We have two new staff members: Breanne Kamenz and Mike Madziar; Mike will be working with both radiation safety and biosafety programs. Mike has been working at the University since 2004, most recently in Chemistry undergraduate labs. Mike finished up his B.Sc. in 2008.

Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMP)

**Update:** Since the ability of the CNSC to issue fines for non-compliance came into effect on July 3, 2013, two fines have been issued!

The first fine (over $14 000) was to a corporation in Manitoba for failing to obtain a licence for a fixed nuclear gauge in the Company's possession. The nuclear gauge is now in the possession of the Commission, ensuring that there is no unreasonable risk to the health and safety of workers, the public and the environment.

The second fine was to an individual employed at an engineering company in Saskatoon. In addition to a $300 personal fine, the individual was removed from activities involving portable nuclear gauges and is to be retrained in all aspects of the safe operation of gauges. To read all about these and other CNSC regulatory actions – check out the CNSC web pages, specifically:


To avoid a personal fine, all individuals at the UM are required to follow the rules and obtain the appropriate training. As well, Designated Workers are responsible to follow all rules listed on the permit, in the manual and lab specific procedures.
1. **“Flip your WHIP”** so the Radiation Warning Symbol (RWS) is displayed on the lab sign when you have more than 100 Exemption Quantity (EQ) of radioactive material. For example, 100 EQ of P-32 is 10 MBq or 270 uCi. If you have ordered 500 uCi (18.5 MBq) of P-32 the RWS must be displayed upon receipt of your order. The WHIP will have to be flipped back when the radioactive material has decayed to below 100 EQ. Otherwise, you may be cited for “frivolous use of the trefoil”! Using the example above, after 1 half-life, the P32 would decay to 9.25 MBq so the trefoil should no longer be displayed. Want to know more about EQ, check out RSP-922.

2. **Remove or cover the RWS on areas or equipment immediately after your weekly monitoring for contamination and when you will not using again within a week.** EHSO has magenta and yellow striped tape that you may use. It doesn’t have RWS! If your lab uses radioactive materials at least several times a year, consider using this tape to label equipment and areas dedicated to radioisotope use only. Items and areas labeled with striped tape are considered ‘possibly contaminated’ requiring anyone using the equipment or area to wear disposable gloves and a lab coats. **Call if you would like to use some of this new tape 204 789-3613 or -3654.**

3. **Dispose long half-life radioactive chemicals** after they are more than two half-lives old. Did you know that you can check the technical data sheet for the decomposition rate of many radiolabelled chemicals. Some H-3 chemicals have a rate of decomposition of 1% per month to 3% every 6 months. For example, if you have H-3 Thymidine the rate of decomposition is initially 3-4% per month from date of purification. After one year, more than one third of the chemical is no longer labelled thymidine! The rate of chemical decomposition can accelerate over time resulting in failed experiments.

4. **Waste Tags.....for solid waste, remember to record the weight of the package on the waste tag.** This information is required to demonstrate compliance with CNSC disposal regulations. The waste tag is a record that CNSC inspects.

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## Radiation Safety Training

### Radiation Safety Workshop for Radiochemicals (Open Source)

There are two upcoming sessions planned. **Please register participants as soon as possible to secure a spot and to ensure the workshop is not cancelled.** As per the new RSP-480, in order to participate in a session, the registrant must complete the Self Study Assignment and the Lab Assignment and hand in the completed assignments to EHSO by the cut off dates as listed below. Once registered, EHSO will provide specific instructions to the participant. **Current registration form – here.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Date</th>
<th>Cut off for EHSO to receive Self-Study Assignment</th>
<th>Cut off for EHSO to receive Lab Assignment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues, January 21/14</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 7/14</td>
<td>Tuesday, January 14/14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues, March 11/14</td>
<td>Tuesday, February 15/14</td>
<td>Tuesday, March 4/14</td>
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**Radiation Safety Training for Sealed Source Radioactive Materials**  Like Open Source training, to be listed on a sealed source permit, as per the new RSP-580, you must complete the Self Study Assignment and contact EHSO to arrange to be mentored in your own lab for the Lab Assignment. Email to radsafe@umanitoba.ca

For up-to-date information or to pre-register for any of the above course, contact Terry at neufeldt@cc.umanitoba.ca

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**Environmental Health and Safety Office**

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<tr>
<th>Environmental Health and Safety Office Newsletter</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fort Garry 204 474-6633 Bannatyne 204 789-3613</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fax 204 474-7629 Fax 204 789-3906</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/human_resources/ehso/">http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/human_resources/ehso/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>After Hour Emergencies Call 555 from all U of M phones</td>
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