

# SAFE & GREEN

## UMSL Lab Safety & Sustainability Newsletter

### In this issue:

- Welcome!
- Lessons Learned
- Facilities Update
- Freezer Challenge
- Unwanted Material Pickup

## Happy New Year!

Welcome to the first edition of the new monthly Lab Safety & Sustainability Newsletter. In this newsletter I hope to bring you stories of safety lessons learned and near misses, tips and opportunities to run a more sustainable and green lab, and highlight some of the great things going on in the UMSL lab community. I'll also use this space to communicate news and updates to policy and procedures.

### Lessons Learned: Murray State Lab Explosion

Three people were injured in early December when a teaching lab experiment using lithium hydride [ignited](#) the evolving hydrogen. Fire response called in the dept. HAZMAT trailer and team and worked with onsite faculty to gather information and render the scene safe.

Take aways:

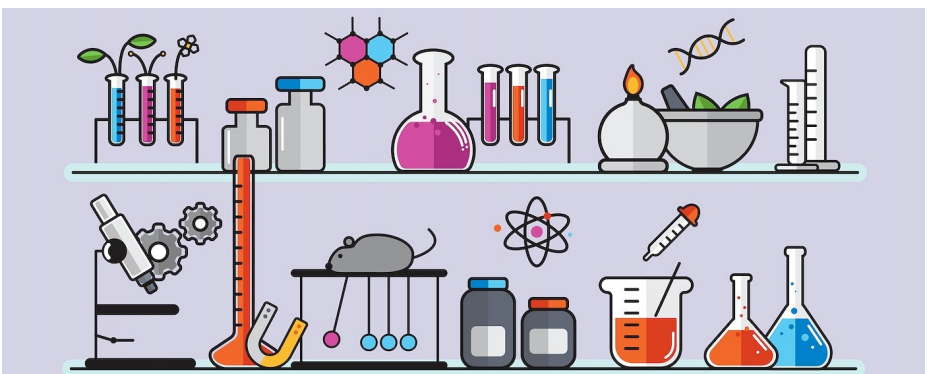
- Remain on site to assist first responders in an emergency
- Experiments evolving explosive gases should be performed in a fume hood, with the sash down as low as feasible.

### Facilities Projects Update\*

- West Drive Stormwater Basin to be developed– Design Phase
- Geospatial Design Lab to occupy Benton 4th floor, East– Design Review
- CNS Roof Replacement– Construction begins 4/23
- EV charging stations on N. and S. Campus– Design Phase
- Science Complex chilled water improvement– Construction 1/23-4/23
- Transform UMSL

[Website](#)

[Slide deck](#)



*Boring photo huh? Get featured in the newsletter by sending a pic of your lab!*

### my green lab Freezer Challenge

Join my green lab and the International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories (I2SL) for their annual [Freezer Challenge](#). This challenge is designed to encourage laboratories to recognize the benefits of good cold storage management. Labs earn points as they institute best practices in their freezer management and maintenance.

### Unwanted Material and Waste Management

EHS has a new team member who will be heading our unwanted material and waste collection. Please say hi to [Mark Briguglio](#) if you see him around the complex. Though his recent degrees are in music and psychology, Mark has been in the environmental health field for over 30 years!

Unwanted material containers will be picked up from teaching and research labs next week. Please make sure that all proper paperwork is affixed.

To request a pickup outside of the regular schedule please use the forms on the [EHS website](#).