Energy, Environment and National Security Directorate

EENS ESH Newsletter

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Go Green—Pollution Prevention

About 540 million unsolicited phonebooks arrive at American doors annually. Phonebooks make for about 660,000 *tons* of trash every year.
Enter your info at the following to get your name off the mailing list - YellowPagesGoesGreen http://www.yellowpagesgoesgreen.org/stop-yellow-pages/

EENS EMS/OHSAS Objectives and Targets FY09

An element of the EMS and the Worker Safety and Health (OHSAS) Management system is to establish measurable improvement goals. Each year EENS management determines new ESH Objectives and Targets that some or all staff will work on to drive ESH improvement. Some of the targets this year include: Conduct a meeting of EENS Local Emergency Coordinators and Building Managers to provide information on the new and revised Emergency Preparedness requirements; Investigate establishment of an EENS Employee Recognition Award for ES&H; Perform EEI Inspections and inventory of all electrical equipment in EENS buildings; Provide tools to assist Managers in identifying potential candidates for ergonomic review of computer workstations - including Observation Card; Staff Survey; and SME evaluations; Prepare/submit a P2 Proposal to install motion detectors in select common areas in EENS buildings (this was completed but not funded), Solicit candidates for replacement of electrical equipment with Energy Star compliant models (e.g., refrigerators), and seek funding to replace 25 % of the old models, Request Energy Survey for a priority EENS building and Create a Standing Work Permit for moving/relocating offices and laboratories. At the end of the fiscal year progress on the objectives and targets is summarized in the EENS Management Review. To view all of the EENS objectives and Targets please go to the following web-site: http://www.bnl.gov/eens/resops/files/Documents/Objectives_and_Targets_2008.pdf

Disposable Glove Use

During recent Tier 1 inspections, used disposable gloves have been observed left on bench tops. If gloves have not been used with chemicals and will be re-used in a short period of time that's okay. Keep in mind that gloves that have been contacted with a splash from a chemical should be removed (as soon as practicable), hands washed and new gloves donned for continued work. Dispose of gloves in the trash or as hazardous waste depending chemical contact. For more information on the proper use of gloves, see the BNL web-course: Chemical and Protective Clothing User Training (HP-OSH-157).

Flood Safety Awareness

Last week was National Flood Safety Awareness week. Flooding is a coast to coast threat to the United States and its territories in all months of the year. National Flood Safety Awareness Week was intended to highlight some of the many ways floods can occur, the hazards associated with floods, and what you can do to save life and property. For more information go to http://www.floodsafety.noaa.gov/ or http://www.noaawatch.gov/floods.php

Update: Electrical Safety Subject Area

The Electrical Safety Subject Area has been changed and revised. If this is applicable to your work please take a look because there are other changes not listed here. (https://sbms.bnl.gov/sbmsearch/subjarea/192/192_sa.cfm?parentID=192)

Printed Circuit Boards

A question came up during a Tier I on the best way to dispose of printed circuit boards. The answer to the question was found on the "How do I Manage this Waste" web page: http://www.bnl.gov/ewms/pollutionpreve/WasteStream/. Because of the lead content of solder and because of the possible toxic metal content of other electrical components on the board, most printed circuit boards are known to exhibit the characteristics of a hazardous waste. *Boards without electrical components* - Bare printed circuit boards (no electrical components) may be collected in bins for recycling, including boards that contain lead solder. Collection for recycling eliminates the need to manage them as hazardous waste. Only boards with no lead solder or components may disposed of in the regular trash. *Boards with electrical components* - Certain electrical components on printed circuit boards contain toxic metals (mercury switches, mercury relays, nickel-cadmium batteries and lithium batteries). Boards with these components must be managed as Hazardous Waste unless all toxic components are removed. Removed toxic components must then be managed as hazardous waste in accordance with the Hazardous Waste Management Subject Area. Call your ECR, Joy Adams, at x7898 for assistance.

Reminder: Check and Update your Emergency Contact Information

Use PeopleSoft HR—Employee Self Service to either provide or update Emergency Contact Information.

Lessons Learned—Preserve Accident Scenes

The scene of an accident must be preserved (to the extent possible) consistent with mitigating the hazards until the investigation is completed. Changing or disturbing an incident scene prior to completion of investigation may make it impossible to determine the potential cause of the event. For example, a BNL technician received a shock to the leg when they leaned against a metal conduit. Weather conditions changed prior to completion of circuit testing and the scene of the event was intended to remain intact until the next rainy day to verify there was no other current source. However, (per scheduled maintenance) the floor was resurfaced prior to the completion of the investigation. Fixing the floor changed the electrical conductance. Subsequent testing could not rule out extraneous current flow through the floor as cause of the electrical shock. For further information go the Lessons Learned web site: https://sbms.bnl.gov/sbmsearch/ll/viewLesson.cfm?LessonID=525

Energy Challenge Update

Overall, the year-to-date savings for BNL buildings is $72,000. A few of our buildings (130, 526 and a wing of 815) showed an increase in energy use during the month of January as compared to the 3 year running average. This is mostly due to the relocation of staff from 475 and out of the 815 D-wing. Buildings 815, 830, and 490 showed at least a 10% decrease in electrical use as compared to the 3 yr. average. Keep up the good work and remember to turn off the lights and computers when you go home.

ESSH Issues, Concerns, Suggestions?

Any questions, please feel free to contact EENS Research Operations (x2746) or use the RO Feedback Form (anonymously if desired): http://www.bnl.gov/eens/resops/feedback/

If you observe an unsafe condition and would like to report it, call the "ESH HOTLINE" ext. **8800**.