



## January Safety Newsletter

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### Who are we?

The Chemical Engineering Student Safety Teams (ChESST) is a newly established group with the goal to encourage safer research practices and working conditions for students in the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Department. For us, safety is more than just checking a bunch of boxes on a form; rather, safety is a general attitude that makes for better teamwork, higher-quality research, and more employable job candidates.

### What is the “Safety Newsletter”?

Each month we will publish a short newsletter targeted to the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering community. Here, we will post relevant safety information, including tips, upcoming events, contacts, training, among others. These will serve as a monthly check-in on how to keep yourself informed of what is coming up and to refresh some common standard safety practices (and more!).

If you would like to submit safety-related content to be published in the newsletter, feel free to send us an e-mail to: [UHChESST@gmail.com](mailto:UHChESST@gmail.com) for approval.

### Upcoming event May 2022: Laboratory visits

Responsible: Laboratory safety officers  
When: May 2022

We believe, that one of the most fundamental ways to improve laboratory safety is to visit each lab and better understand what *your* research looks like. Furthermore, we would like to discuss prevalent safety issues and hear your thoughts on how they can be addressed to improve research practices within the department. To this end, we want to initiate peer-to-peer safety audits, where you can provide a short *safety-oriented* tour of your lab to members of our team. While we intend to address several formalities and questions during these visits, they are solely intended to be informal audits. As such, these audits will function more as conversation starters rather than ways to administer citations or collect documentation.

### Safety Tip of the Month

Always keep the safety contacts handy!  
Some recommendations:

- Save these safety contacts in your phone. Use a standard nomenclature when doing this. For example, “UH\_EHS”
- Write down the contacts in your laboratory notebook
- Put a sign in your laboratory with these contacts

Here are some safety contacts you should save

EHS: 713-743-5858

UH Police

Emergencies: 911

Non-emergencies: 713-743-333

Fix-It: 713-743-4948

UH Health Center: 713-743-5151

### Did you know...?

A variety of hazards exist in the laboratories at the University of Houston. The risks associated with these hazards are greatly reduced or eliminated if proper precautions and practices are observed in the laboratory. To manage these risks, and in response to a heightened concern for safety in the workplace, the University of Houston has developed this General Laboratory Safety Manual (GLSM).

See the full manual [here](#)

Have a question? Need some clarifications? Contact us at [UHChESST@gmail.com](mailto:UHChESST@gmail.com)