2024 NIH Green Labs Program Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus

The *2024 NIH Green Labs Program (GLP) Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus* is for NIEHS labs located at the RTP campus only. All others will complete the GLP Self-assessment that corresponds to the campus where they perform their work.

See https://nems.nih.gov/green-teams/Pages/NIH-Green-Labs-Program.aspx for more information and links to GLPs for the other campuses.

* This form will record your name, please fill your name.

NEW THIS YEAR!

For those who completed a Green Researcher Self-assessment in 2024, you can save time and effort by approving it for use as your lab's NIH Green Labs Self-assessment.

1

Is your lab located on the NIEHS Research Triangle Park, NC, campus?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

2

Did you submit an NIEHS Green Researcher Self-assessment (GRSA) in 2024?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I'm not sure, please check

3

SAVE TIME AND EFFORT! Would you like your NIEHS Green Researcher Self-assessment (GRSA) to also count as your lab's NIH GLP Self-assessment this year?

By selecting "yes," you are confirming that the answers you provided in your 2024 GRSA represent your lab as well as yourself, and you are done! You must click on the "submit" button for your response to be received.

By selecting "No" you will then proceed to the 2024 NIH GLP Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus.

By answering "I'm not sure...," HSB will email your GRSA responses to you to review. You must click on the "submit" button for your response to be received. You can then return to this self-assessment and select either "Yes," and you're done, or "No" and proceed to the NIH GLP Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I'm not sure, please send me my GRSA to review

WELCOME!

The NIH Green Labs Program (GLP) Self-assessment (GLP) is an initiative of the NIH Sustainability Management Team to recognize laboratories that participate in NIH and IC-specific environmental initiatives to reduce their environmental footprint. The GLP Self-assessment is also a learning opportunity for laboratory environmental stewardship. It is not a compliance assessment.

The *2024 NIH GLP Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus* has been customized to reflect the programs, services, and opportunities available to labs located on the RTP campus. See https://nems.nih.gov/green-teams/Pages/NIH-Green-Labs-Program.aspx for more information and links to GLPs for the other campuses.

Please select your response to each of the statements in the following sections based on the current practices in your lab at NIEHS. Your lab's score will be adjusted to account for "NA" answers or topics that do not apply. The feedback section is optional and is not scored.

Labs must reply “Yes” to the following minimum number of statements to achieve the recongition levels shown:

- Honorable Mention: 5 statements
- Bronze: 10 statements
- Silver: 15 statements
- Gold: 20 statements

Thank you for completing the *2024 NIH GLP Self-assessment - NIEHS Campus*!

INSTRUCTIONS

- You will have the best experience if you complete this assessment using Microsoft Edge as your web browser.
- Use the "Back" and "Next" buttons at the bottom of each page in the self-assessment rather that those in your web browser.
- The assessment takes about 15-20 minutes to complete.
- "NA" responses are not counted against your score but should only be used for statements that do not apply to your lab.
- You must click on the "submit" button at the end of the *GLP Self-assessment* for it to be received for scoring.
- GLP Self-assessments can be resubmitted. NIH will only evaluate the most recent submittal at the end of the submittal period.
- For further assistance please contact HSB at hse@niehs.nih.gov or (984) 287-3400.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

4

Preferred name:

If you prefer to go by a nickname, a middle name, etc., enter it here for use in follow-up communications.

5

Division:

- ◯ DIR
- ◯ DTT
- ◯ Other

DIR Principal Investigator:

Choices are listed in alphabetical order by last name; if more than one applies, or if you do not find your PI listed, please select "Other" and type in the PI name(s).

- ◯ Benedict Anchang
- ◯ Trevor Archer
- ◯ Perry Blackshear
- ◯ Mario Borgnia
- ◯ Carl Bortner
- ◯ John Cidlowski
- ◯ Dondrae Coble
- ◯ Don Cook
- ◯ Bill Copeland
- ◯ Guohong Cui
- ◯ Jesse Cushman
- ◯ Francesco Demayo
- ◯ Leesa Deterding
- ◯ Mary Diaz-Santana
- ◯ Paul Doetsch
- ◯ Serena Dudek
- ◯ Rajula Elango
- ◯ Kelly Ferguson
- ◯ Michael Fessler
- ◯ Stavros Garantziotis
- ◯ Kevin Gerrish
- ◯ Elizabeta Gjoneska
- ◯ Mandy Goldberg
- ◯ Dmitry Gordenin
- ◯ Andrew Gorman
- ◯ Artiom Gruzdev

- ◯ Carlos Guardia
- ◯ Janet Hall
- ◯ Traci Hall
- ◯ Ron Herbert
- ◯ Guang Hu
- ◯ Chandra Jackson
- ◯ Alan Jarmusch
- ◯ Patricia Jensen
- ◯ Anton Jetten
- ◯ Raja Jothi
- ◯ Anne Marie Jukic
- ◯ Thomas Kunkel
- ◯ David Kurtz
- ◯ Jian-Liang Li
- ◯ Leping Li
- ◯ Xiaoling Li
- ◯ Julieta Lischinsky
- ◯ Stephanie London
- ◯ Negin Martin
- ◯ Alex Montiel Ishino
- ◯ Marcos Morgan
- ◯ Alison Motsinger-Reif
- ◯ Geoff Mueller
- ◯ Arun Kumar Pandiri
- ◯ Anant Parekh
- ◯ Shayamal Peddada
- ◯ Lars Pedersen
- ◯ Lalith Perera
- ◯ Robert Petrovich
- ◯ Manas Ray

- [ ] Lisa Rider
- [ ] Joseph Rodriguez
- [ ] Mary Diaz Santana
- [ ] Dale Sandler
- [ ] Roel Schaaper
- [ ] Natalie Shaw
- [ ] Stephen Shears
- [ ] Gregory Solomon
- [ ] Robin Stanley
- [ ] Jack Taylor
- [ ] Charles Tucker
- [ ] Paul Wade
- [ ] Jason Watts
- [ ] Donna Webb
- [ ] Alexandra White
- [ ] Clarice Weinberg
- [ ] Carmen Williams
- [ ] Jason Williams
- [ ] Scott Williams
- [ ] Jerry Yakel
- [ ] Humphrey Yao
- [ ] Darryl Zeldin
- [ ] Shanshan Zhao

- [ ] Other

DIR Branch/Lab:

Choices are listed in alphabetical order. If you do not find your branch/lab listed, please select "Other" and type in the name.

- ◯ Biostatistics and Computational Biology Branch
- ◯ Clinical Research Branch
- ◯ Comparative Medicine Branch
- ◯ Epidemiology Branch
- ◯ Epigenetics and Stem Cell Biology Lab
- ◯ Genome Integrity and Structural Biology Lab
- ◯ Immunity, Inflammation, and Disease Lab
- ◯ Neurobiology Lab
- ◯ Reproductive and Developmental Biology Lab
- ◯ Signal Transduction Lab
- ◯ Other

DIR Lab Group/Core:

If more than one applies, or if you do not find your group/core listed, please select "Other" and type in the group name(s).

- ◯ Calcium Signaling in Health and Disease Group
- ◯ Cell Biology Group
- ◯ Chromatin and Gene Expression Group
- ◯ Chromosome Stability Group
- ◯ Chronic Disease Epidemiology Group
- ◯ Clinical Investigation of Host Defense Group
- ◯ Clinical Research Unit
- ◯ Computational Chemistry and Molecular Modeling Support Group
- ◯ Developmental Neurobiology Group
- ◯ DNA Repair & Nucleic Acid Enzymology Group
- ◯ DNA Replication Fidelity Group
- ◯ Environment & Cancer Epidemiology Group
- ◯ Environmental Autoimmunity Group
- ◯ Environmental Cardiopulmonary Disease Group
- ◯ Environmental Epigenomics and Disease Group
- ◯ Environmental Genetics Group
- ◯ Epigenetics and DNA Sequencing Core
- ◯ Epigenetic Responses to Environmental Exposures Group
- ◯ Epigenomics and DNA Sequencing Core Facility Group
- ◯ Eukaryotic Transcriptional Regulation Group
- ◯ Fertility and Reproductive Health Group
- ◯ Flow Cytometry Center
- ◯ Fluorescence Microscopy and Imaging Center Group
- ◯ Gene Editing and Mouse Model Core
- ◯ Genetic Epidemiology Group
- ◯ Genetics, Environment and Respiratory Disease Group

- ◯ Genome Stability Structural Biology Group
- ◯ Genomics and the Environment in Respiratory and Allergic Health Group
- ◯ Health Assessment and Translation Group
- ◯ Immunogenetics Group
- ◯ In Vivo Neurobiology Group
- ◯ Inflammation & Autoimmunity Group
- ◯ Inositol Signaling Group
- ◯ Integrative Bioinformatics Support Group
- ◯ Ion Channel Physiology Group
- ◯ Macromolecular Structure Group
- ◯ Male Reproduction and RNA Biology Group
- ◯ Mammalian Genome Group
- ◯ Mass Spectrometry Research and Support Group
- ◯ Matrix Biology Group
- ◯ Mechanisms of Genome Dynamics Group
- ◯ Mechanisms of Mutation Group
- ◯ Metabolism, Genes, and Environment Group
- ◯ Metabolomics Core
- ◯ Mitochondrial DNA Replication Group
- ◯ Molecular and Genetic Epidemiology Group
- ◯ Molecular Endocrinology Group
- ◯ Molecular Genomics Core
- ◯ Molecular Microscopy Consortium
- ◯ Molecular Pathogenesis Group
- ◯ Molecular Toxicology and Genomics Group
- ◯ Mouse Embryo Phenotyping and Special Techniques Group
- ◯ Mutagenesis and DNA Repair Regulation Group
- ◯ Neurobehavioral Core
- ◯ Neuroepigenomics Group
- ◯ Neuropharmacology Group

- [ ] Neurotoxicology Group
- [ ] Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Group
- [ ] Nucleolar Integrity Group
- [ ] Neurobehavioral Circuits Group
- [ ] Pediatric Neuroendocrinology Group
- [ ] Perinatal and Early Life Epidemiology Group
- [ ] Pharmacogenetics Group
- [ ] Placental Cell Biology Group
- [ ] Post-Transcriptional Gene Expression Group
- [ ] Predictive Toxicology and Screening Group
- [ ] Pregnancy and Female Reproduction Group
- [ ] Protein Expression Core
- [ ] Puberty and Cancer Epidemiology Group
- [ ] Quality Assurance Lab
- [ ] Receptor Biology Group
- [ ] Report on Carcinogens Group
- [ ] Reproductive Developmental Biology Group
- [ ] Reproductive Endocrinology Group
- [ ] Reproductive Medicine Group
- [ ] Reproductive Physiology and Pathophysiology Group
- [ ] Single Cell Dynamics Group
- [ ] Special Techniques Core
- [ ] Stalled Replication Repair Group
- [ ] Stem Cell Biology Group
- [ ] Social and Environmental Determinants of Health Equity Group
- [ ] SocioEnvironmental and Ecological Disparities Group
- [ ] Spatiotemporal Exposures and Toxicology Group
- [ ] Stem Cell Toxicology Group
- [ ] Structural Cell Biology Group

- ◯ Structure Function Group
- ◯ Synaptic and Developmental Plasticity Group
- ◯ Systems Biology Group
- ◯ Transcriptional Responses in Disease Group
- ◯ Veterinary Medicine Group
- ◯ Viral Vector Core
- ◯ Women's Health Group
- ◯ X-ray Crystallography Core
- ◯ Other

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DTT Principal Investigator:

Choices are listed in alphabetical order by last name; if more than one applies, or if you do not find your PI listed, please select "Other" and type in the PI name.

- ◯ Ronald Cannon
- ◯ Darlene Dixon
- ◯ G.J. Harry
- ◯ Ron Herbert
- ◯ Kyle Messier
- ◯ Heather Patisaul
- ◯ Arun Kumar Pandiri
- ◯ Andrew Rooney
- ◯ Janine Santos
- ◯ Robert Sills
- ◯ Erik Tokar
- ◯ Greg Travlos
- ◯ Other

DTT Branch/Lab:

Choices are listed in alphabetical order. If you do not find your branch/lab listed, please select "Other" and type in the name.

- ◯ Comparative & Molecular Pathogenesis Branch
- ◯ Integrative Health Assessments Branch
- ◯ Mechanistic Toxicology Branch
- ◯ Predictive Toxicology Branch
- ◯ Systems Toxicology Branch
- ◯ Other

DTT Lab Group/Core:

If more than one applies, or if you do not find your group/core listed, please select "Other" and type in the group name(s).

- ◯ Clinical Pathology Group
- ◯ Comparative Medicine Group
- ◯ Health Assessment and Translation Group
- ◯ Imaging Science and Artificial Intelligence Group
- ◯ Laser Capture Microdissection Group
- ◯ Mechanistic Toxicology Group
- ◯ Molecular Pathology Group
- ◯ Mouse Embryo Phenotyping Core
- ◯ NTP ICEATM Group
- ◯ Pathology Evaluation and Peer Review Group
- ◯ Pathology Support Group - Histology
- ◯ Pathology Support Group - Electron Microscopy
- ◯ Pathology Support Group - Imaging Sciences
- ◯ Pathology Support Group - Immunohistochemistry
- ◯ Pathology Support Group - Necropsy
- ◯ Report on Carcinogenesis Group
- ◯ Spatiotemporal Exposures and Toxicology Group
- ◯ Special Techniques Core
- ◯ Systems Toxicology Group
- ◯ Toxicoinformatics Group
- ◯ Other

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Principal Investigator:

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Branch/Lab:

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Group/Core:

WASTE MANAGEMENT

The goals of the NIEHS Waste Management Program are to reduce waste generation, increase recycling, ensure proper disposal of all waste types, and comply with regulatory requirements.

Reducing the amount of materials and/or the toxicity of materials in use to conduct and support research furthers the Institute's mission and sustainability goals. For more details, refer to the NIEHS Environmental Policy Statement at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/committees/ems/policy/index.htm

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Lab members are current on Hazardous Waste Management Training and/or Lab Safety Refresher Training.

Lab Safety Training includes content on hazardous materials and waste handling and storage. Researchers refresh their Lab Safety training every three years. Lab Safety Refresher Training is available online at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/training/safety_refresher

Hazardous Waste Management Training is mandated annually for all personnel who create or handle hazardous waste. Access NIEHS Hazardous Waste Management Training at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/training/hazardous_waste

Individual lab members can access their training history at: https://ehsartp.niehs.nih.gov/ehsa/?showworkerhistory=yes

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

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We follow requirements for the procurement, use, and disposal of mercury and mercury-containing reagents/equipment.

Mercury and its compounds are neurotoxic, bioaccumulative, and persistent in the environment and subject to increasingly stringent regulations governing their use and disposal.

For more information, refer to:

- *Intramural Chapter 3000, Section 3033 in the NIH Policy Manual, or search via keyword "mercury" (https://oma.od.nih.gov/DMS/Pages/Manual-Chapters.aspx), and*
- *Chapter 6B of the NIEHS Waste Manual (https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/waste_management)*

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ NA - my lab's research does not involve mercury containing reagents/equipment
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

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We only discharge liquid chemical waste down the drain when an approved *Chemical Discharge Application* is on file with NIH, or we have confirmed that all chemicals and their concentrations are approved for discharge as listed in Appendix B of the *NIH Drain Discharge Guide*.

NIH Division of Environmental Protection (DEP), Waste Resource Recovery Branch (WRRB), reviews Chemical Discharge Requests. Access your lab's requests at https://dep.orf.od.nih.gov/app/home

Access the NIH Drain Discharge Guide at https://nems.nih.gov/Documents/NIH_Drain_Discharge_Guide.pdf

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my lab's research does not involve waste that is suitable for drain discharge

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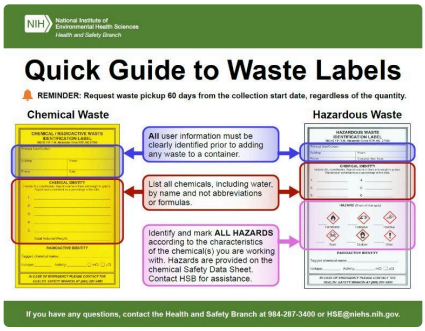
We display the recently created *NIEHS Quick Guide to Waste Labels*.

Quick Guides are 8.5" x 11" and are available in decal and magnetic formats.

Learn more about how to manage chemical, hazardous, radioactive and other wastes at NIEHS at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/waste_management.



- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ NA - my lab does not produce chemical, radioactive or hazardous waste
- ☐ I need (more) signs, please contact me

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We follow the "4 L's" of chemical or hazardous waste management:

1. **Lids:** Secure containers with a lid unless actively adding waste
2. **Labels:** Select the appropriate label, add user information and accumulation start date, add chemical identity, indicate hazards for hazardous waste, and affix to container
3. **Leaks:** Check containers periodically for leaks and use secondary containment
4. **Location:** Store at or near the point of generation, typically under fume hoods or on a lab bench; used oils and lubricants should be placed on spill decks

Learn more about how to manage chemical, hazardous and other wastes at NIEHS at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/waste_management.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my lab does not produce chemical or hazardous waste
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

20

We dispose of uncontaminated, non-recyclable labware in broken glass boxes as follows:

1. **Boxes are not filled more than 75% of their capacity, and**
2. **When ready for pickup, boxes are labeled as Landfill Trash and secured with filament tape.**

Broken glass boxes, Landfill Trash labels and filament tape are available from the NIEHS Self Service Store. Refer to Chapter 2b. Disposable Lab Solids in the NIEHS Waste Manual for more information (https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/waste_management)

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my lab does not work with materials that are disposed of in broken glass boxes
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

21

We manage waste sharps as follows:

1. **Leave sharps intact and place in a sharp-safe container, available from the Self Service Store**
2. **When container is 75% full, secure the top of the container with tape**
3. **If there are any free liquids, double bag container with two yellow hazard bags**
4. **Attach a yellow Chemical Waste Label and red Biohazard Label. Write on label: "Attn. - Sharps"**

Sharps include needles, syringes, scalpels/razor blades and microfine pipette tips, Pasteur pipettes, or any device capable of puncturing the skin that may or may not be contaminated with pathogens.
Refer to Chapter 3.D. of the NIEHS Waste Manual for more information: https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/waste_management

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my lab does not use sharps
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

The NIEHS recycling and reuse program has been in place since 1993 and as of FY23, has diverted nearly 22 million pounds of material and waste from landfill.

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We recycle according to the NIEHS Recycling Guide and ask for assistance when we're not sure what we can recycle or where to recycle it.

The NIEHS Recycling Guide is available on https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/working/committees/ems/recycle.

Want to test your knowledge? Take the NIEHS Recycling Quick Quizzes, available at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/working/committees/ems/recycle.

Email NIEHSrecycles@niehs.nih.gov for recycling assistance.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my lab does not create any wastes that are recyclable at NIEHS
- ◯ We would like to learn more, please contact me

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We do the following when we have surplus items:

1. **Post it to the NIEHS ReUse It! website for others OR**
2. **Add it to the Surplus Scientific Supply Room in C-333 OR**
3. **Notify the Office of Research Services that we had surplus equipment to "advertise" for pickup via email**
4. **Provide them for pickup during Toss-it Week**

Access the ReUse It! program at https://apps.niehs.nih.gov/reuseit/index.cfm. Be sure to check out the ReUse It! website for guidance on what is accepted.

For more information on the Surplus Scientific Supply Room in C-333, see https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/services/facilities/property/how-to/surplus/index.htm.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - we did not have any surplus items in 2024
- ◯ We would like to learn more, please contact me

We surplused an unneeded desktop printer in 2024 in alignment with the NIEHS Printer Policy.

The NIEHS Printer Policy encourages the use of shared high-volume printers instead of standalone desktop printers to save on hardware, toner, electricity, and maintenance costs. View the NIEHS Printer Policy at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/director/oit/policy/printer/index.htm and for tips on how to format and print your documents in a more sustainable manner.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - we do not have desktop printers
- ◯ We would like to learn more, please contact me

ENERGY CONSERVATION

U.S. laboratories on average use far more energy per square foot than office buildings and other commercial facilities because lab activities are energy-intensive, labs operate around-the clock, and lab health and safety requirements are more stringent. The NIH Energy Conservation program seeks to optimize energy consumption through energy use policies, best available technologies, proficient operations, and maintenance activities.

In FY23, NIEHS used more than 76,600 MW-hours of energy (electricity, natural gas, fuel oil and propane), equivalent to approximately 4,200 average US households' energy use.

Indicate which of the following equipment you turned off, or that automatically sleeps/goes into standby mode, when not in use or on nights/weekends.

This is a particularly impactful energy conservation opportunity for labs. Per My Green Lab, plug load makes up about 20% of energy consumption in a lab. For U.S. labs, reducing plug load by just 10% is the equivalent of taking around 650,000 cars off the road. https://www.mygreenlab.org/blog-beaker/top-9-actions-to-take-in-the-lab-to-improve-energy-efficiency

	Turned Off/Putt In Sleep or Standby Before the GLP (Prior to Sept. '24)	Started Turning Off/Putting In Sleep or Standby During the GLP (After Sept. '24)	Not Turned Off/Put In Sleep or Standby	NA - Not an Option for this Equipment in My Lab	NA - We Do Not Have This Equipment
Autoclaves	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Biosafety Cabinets	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Cell Counters	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Centrifuges	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Computers or Laptops that Run the Equipment (SPE's)	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Copiers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Film Developers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Heating Blocks	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Imagers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Incubators	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Microscopes	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Orbital Shakers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Ovens	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Printers for Lab Equipment	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
PCRs	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Rotators/Rockers	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯
Water Baths	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

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Our lab implements the following other energy efficient practices:

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Our lab is interested in learning about making our research more energy efficient.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

WATER CONSERVATION

The NIH Water Conservation program seeks to optimize water consumption through water usage policies, best available technologies, operations and maintenance. NIEHS used approximately 4.2 million gallons of potable water in 2023, which equated to 30 gallons per gross square foot of building space. Research related water use included washing animal cages, autoclaving, cleaning laboratory glassware, and emissions controls for the pathological waste incinerator.

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We conserve water by (select all that apply):

	Yes	No	NA - Not Present In Our Lab/Not Used in Our Research	I Need Assistance/Tell Me More - Please Contact Me
Submitting facilities repair requests when I observe drips and leaks via https://58000.nih.gov/	◯	◯	◯	◯
Not letting water run in the sinks when not actively in use	◯	◯	◯	◯
Consolidating loads and shutting the doors of autoclaves after removing items to prevent loss of heat and steam	◯	◯	◯	◯
Completing Hydro Water Purification Systems Training to prevent/detect/respond to leaks	◯	◯	◯	◯
Turning off water baths when not in use.	◯	◯	◯	◯
Planning a small-scale experiment first to optimize resources, such as water and media.	◯	◯	◯	◯

Our lab implements the following other water conservation practices:

FREEZER MANAGEMENT

Cold storage equipment use a significant amount of energy. For example, older, non-ENERGY STAR certified Ultra-Low Temperature (ULT) freezers can use as much electricity as an average U.S. household.

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We use cold storage.

This question not scored. If "no" is selected, you will bypass additional questions related to cold storage.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

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We participated in the 2024 NIH Freezer Challenge.

The NIH Freezer Challenge runs from January to May. It incorporates equipment, sample management and temperature change initiatives to increase freezer reliability and decrease energy use. Every effort helps - for example, if you typically defrost your freezer annually, think about doing it during the challenge period for additional impact. See https://nems.nih.gov/sustain/Pages/Freezer-Challenge.aspx for more information.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

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We plan to participate in the 2025 NIH Freezer Challenge.

Unscored; will be used for outreach in 2025.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I would like to learn more, please contact me

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My lab operated at least one of its ULT freezers at -70C instead of -80C.

Operating a ULT at -70C reduces energy consumption by 30% compared to operating at -80C (sometimes more depending on the freezer), reduces heat load and therefore lowers the energy needed to cool the room where the freezer operates, and fosters greater reliability/longer operating life for the freezer.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - my sample types are not conducive to storing at -70C
- ◯ NA - my lab does not use ULTs
- ◯ I would like to learn more/my lab is interested in increasing the set point of our ULT freezers - please contact me

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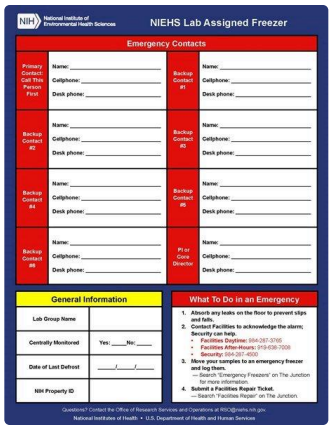
My lab uses the NIEHS standard freezer emergency contact signs.

See Refrigerated Equipment Services on The Junction for more details: https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/security/facilities/utilities/refrigerated



- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I need (more) signs and/or magnetic frames, please contact me

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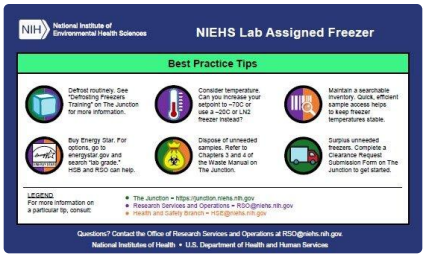
I/my lab posts NIEHS Freezer Best Practice Tips magnets on my ULT and -20C freezers.

See Optimize Your Freezers on The Junction for more details: https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/safety/sustainability/freezers



- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I need (more) magnets, please contact me

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My lab knows how to access the Emergency Freezer Database.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I need assistance, please contact me

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Please paste the link you use to access the database.

SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT

The Biden-Harris Administration released Executive Order 14057: Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability. EO 14057 establishes a coordinated, whole-of-government approach, along with individual agency goals and actions, to transform Federal procurement and operations to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and environmental impacts, and secure a transition to clean energy and sustainable technologies.

Federal purchasers are directed in EO 14057 and the Federal Acquisitions Regulations to purchase environmentally preferrable and energy- and water-efficient products and services. Greener, more efficient purchasing can catalyze a more sustainable marketplace for all – reducing climate impacts, improving the health of communities, preventing pollution, and increasing U.S. industry competitiveness.

38

Before purchasing new items, we review EPA's recommendations and resources for greener products/services, and FEMP's guidance for energy- and water-efficient products/services.

Access EPA's Sustainable Marketplace: Greener Products and Services website at https://www.epa.gov/greenerproducts

Access EPA's SNAP website at https://www.epa.gov/snap. SNAP identifies and evaluates substitutes for items and processes that have historically used ozone-depleting substances.

Access the DOE Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) Energy-Efficient Products database at https://www.energy.gov/femp/search-energy-efficient-products, which addresses both energy and water efficiency.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - we did not purchase any items in 2024
- ◯ We would like to learn more, please contact me

39

We keep an updated chemical inventory and refer to this list before purchasing new items.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - we do not use chemicals in our research

40

We did the following before, or in place of, purchasing new items:

1. **Checked with the Warehouse and/or the NIEHS ReUse It! website for surplus**
2. **Checked the Surplus Scientific Supply Room in C-333**
3. **Claimed surplus items the Office of Research Services "advertised" via email**

Access the ReUse It! program at https://apps.niehs.nih.gov/reuseit/index.cfm. Be sure to check out the ReUse It! website for guidance on what is accepted.

For more information on the Surplus Scientific Supply Room in C-333, see https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/management/services/facilities/property/how-to/surplus/index.htm.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - we did not need any items in 2024
- ◯ We would like to learn more, please contact me

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We use Core Laboratories at NIEHS or at other Institutes and Centers (ICs) to leverage expertise, efficiency and shared resources.

Refer to Cores & Intramural Resources on the Junction for more information on Core Labs at NIEHS https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/divisions/dir/resources

Refer to https://crex.nih.gov/login for Core Labs at other ICs.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ NA - our research does not involve Core Lab services and/or analyses

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH

42

A lab representative is a member of/participates in the following:

Select all that apply.

See https://nems.nih.gov/green-teams/Pages/Sustainable-Laboratory-Practices-Working-Group.aspx for more information.

See https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/working/committees/eaac for more information about the EEAC.

- [ ] NIEHS Environmental Awareness Advisory Committee (EAAC)
- [ ] NIH Sustainable Laboratory Practices Working Group
- [ ] NIEHS Environment, Health and Safety Committee
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] I'm interested - please contact me

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A lab representative subscribes to the NIH Green Zone Newsletter for information on NIH environmental programs.

Not currently a subscriber? Check out prior issues and sign up now at https://nems.nih.gov/Pages/NIH-Green-Zone-Newsletter.aspx to earn a point! Be sure to respond to the automated email that will be generated upon sign up within 48 hours of receipt to confirm your subscription.

Want to learn more about the Green Zone newsletter? Contact Virgil Thornton at virgil.thornton@nih.gov.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I'm not sure - please check

44

All lab members have completed NIEHS Environmental Management System (EMS) Awareness Training.

NIEHS implemented an EMS to continually improve on our environmental programs. Learn more about EMS at https://www.epa.gov/ems/learn-about-environmental-management-systems. Access NIEHS EMS Awareness Training at https://junction.niehs.nih.gov/working/committees/ems/training

This is a one-time training - if completed as of the submission of this GLP self-assessment or prior, answer "yes."

Individuals can access their training history at: https://ehsartp.niehs.nih.gov/ehsa/?showworkerhistory=yes

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No
- ◯ I need help answering this question, please contact me

45

We have motivated our peers/colleagues from another lab to participate in the NIH Green Labs Program.

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

46

Please provide the name of your peers/colleagues in the box below.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

The following questions are optional and are not scored but are extremely valuable to ensure good customer service. Thank you in advance!

47

How can we improve this self-assessment in the future? Let us know below.

48

Do you have any suggestions for laboratory greening programs you would like to see implemented in the future?

Points possible: not scored

49

How did you hear about the NIH Green Labs Program?

Select all that apply.

- [ ] Meeting or working group
- [ ] Principal Investigator or Scientific Director
- [ ] Colleague
- [ ] Email
- [ ] The Junction
- [ ] NIH Website
- [ ] NIH Green Zone Newsletter
- [ ] Green listserv
- [ ] NIH Twitter (X)
- [ ] Other