

# NIH GREEN ZONE NEWSLETTER

The Newsletter of the NIH Environmental Management System

**SUBSCRIBE** 

**PREVIOUS ISSUES** 

#### **SEPTEMBER 2018**



# **Introducing the NIH Green Labs Program**

Does your lab recycle? Do you turn off equipment not in use? Take a look at the new NIH Green Labs Program Self-Assessment tool to evaluate how well you are implementing green practices in your lab. You can also learn about new ways to improve your lab's environmental stewardship!

The NIH Green Labs Program is designed to help NIH labs reduce their environmental footprint by encouraging participation in NIH environmental initiatives. The Self-Assessment tool provides a singular source of information for researchers to learn about relevant programs, policies, regulations, and mandates. The Self-Assessment tool also provides contact information for anyone looking to participate in the listed environmental initiatives. Some of the topics covered in the NIH Green Labs Program are conserving energy and water, managing waste, using less toxic chemical alternatives, and many more. Review the NIH Green Labs Program Self-Assessment statements to evaluate how well your lab is doing at environmental stewardship!

Any NIH staff can fill out the NIH Green Labs Self-Assessment form for their lab until December 31, 2018. The self-assessment consists of 32 statements with quick and easy true or false answers. To become certified, labs must reply "True or NA" to 5 statements about NIH regulations and "True" to 10 of the remaining 27 statements about green practices. For a more detailed summary of the NIH Green Labs Program certification process and to fill out the Self-Assessment form, please visit the NIH Green Labs Program webpage (you must be on the NIH network to access this form).

Once your self-assessment is submitted and evaluated, qualifying labs will receive the title of NIH Green Lab! These labs will receive an official NIH Green Labs Program Certificate and will be entered into a lottery pool in early January 2019, from which 5 lab representatives will receive a travel award to a conference on environmental stewardship in biomedical research. The NIH Green Labs will also be recognized in a variety of media forms, such as newsletters, e-mails, bulletins and more! Be sure to submit your self-assessment to have your lab announced as an NIH Green Lab!

You can learn more about the NIH Green Labs Program in person at the 2018 NIH Green Labs Fair on September 12, from 12-2 pm, in the Building 10 South Lobby. The Green Labs Fair also features a variety of information on green products, green practices and environmental initiatives that you can use to reduce your lab's environmental footprint. Learn about green products directly from their vendors, discover green practices from the lab staff that actually use them, and inquire about NIH initiatives with the staff that run them! To learn more about the 2018 NIH Green Labs Fair, click here.

For questions regarding the NIH Green Labs Program, please contact Ms. Bani Bhattacharya.

#### **TAKE ACTION**

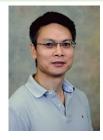


# Visit the 2018 NIH Green Labs Fair

The 2018 NIH Green Labs Fair is September 12 from 12-2 pm in the Building 10 South Lobby. This event features a green products show with over 20 vendors and a green poster show with presentations from throughout NIH. Visit the Green Labs Fair to learn more about green products, green practices and NIH environmental programs and initiatives!

#### **LEARN MORE**

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



# Meet Dr. Da-Ting Lin, a Green Champion Award Winner

This month, we are highlighting an individual that uses green practices in his daily routine, Dr. Da-Ting Lin. Dr. Lin has been previously recognized with a 2016 HHS Green Champion award for the development of the miniScope, which combines multiple green practices. Read the full article to learn about the ways Dr. Lin is incorporating sustainability at the NIH!

# **LEARN MORE**

# **NEMS TRAINING**

**Did you know?** The Green Labs Fair was originally created by members of the Sustainable Lab Practices Working Group. You can positively influence sustainability at the NIH too! To learn more about environmental initiatives at the NIH, please visit the NEMS Training webpage to view a short (20 minute) NIH environmental awareness training video.

The NIH Green Zone Newsletter is a publication intended to inform NIH staff about the Division of Environmental Protection and NIH Green Teams projects and initiatives.

The text contained in this newsletter is not copyrighted and can be reprinted without permission. If you use portions of this newsletter in your own publication, we ask that you please credit the source. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Thank you.

Division of Environmental Protection | Office of Research Facilities | Office of Management | National Institutes of Health | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services