



**Newsletter Highlights**

- Meet the Department of EH&S
- Sustainability in our Daily Lives
- Green Laboratory Tips
- Upcoming Event:  
EH&S Safety Expo Tabling Event



## Meet the Department of EH&S

Prepared by Victoria Villa,  
EH&S Laboratory Safety Officer

Florida International University's Department of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) falls under the Division of Operations and Safety. Our aim is to protect the university community and its environment by ensuring our operations – from residential living to lab research – comply with all applicable regulations and best practices. Our skilled team members are available to provide consultation and hands-on assistance.

Read more [here](#).

## Our Areas

- Biological Safety
- Chemical Safety
- Environmental Compliance
- Fire Prevention and Protection
- General Safety
- Industrial Safety
- Laboratory Safety
- Laser Safety
- Radiation Safety
- Safety Trainings
- And More!

Find out more [here](#).

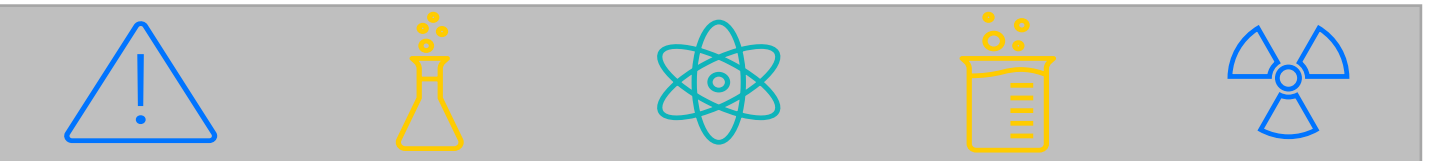


## Sustainability in Our Daily Lives

Here are some things we can do in our daily lives to be more earth-conscious:

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – be cognizant of what you are throwing away, try to follow the "R's".
- Conserve Water and Energy – try to use less water when doing dishes or taking showers; turn off the lights when you can or use energy-efficient bulbs.
- Get involved with FIU's Go Green – volunteer or intern at FIU's Nature Preserve, Organic Garden, Sustainability Events, and more.
- Check out their website [here](#)

## Green Laboratory Tips



**Refrigerators/Freezer Organization** – Maintaining a refrigerator/freezer inventory list posted on the exterior, keeping the articles inside organized, and annual cleanouts will help reduce energy and prevent ice build-up.

**Chemical Fume Hoods** – Reducing the items within the hood, keeping items six inches behind the sash, and keeping the sash closed when the hood is not in use will help the airflow and reduce energy consumption.

**Chemical Practices** – Trying to exchange hazardous or toxic chemicals with green alternatives is a more sustainable practice. Keeping an active chemical inventory, annually checking the chemicals in your stock, and donating unused and unexpired chemicals to other labs will help reduce the amount of waste produced. Check out EH&S's Chemical webpage [here](#).

**Reuse of Containers for Hazardous Waste Storage** – Plastic and glass containers may be used for hazardous waste storage; labels must be defaced. Containers that held P/U listed waste or pesticides may not be used. See more [here](#).

**Biological Practices** – Consider exchanging disposable items with those that can be sterilized with an autoclave and reused like test tubes, micro-loops/ inoculation loops, etc.

**Restrict Chemical Discharge** – FIU policy is for ALL HAZARDOUS WASTE to be collected by EH&S and that no chemicals be released into the drains or sinks; this includes all paints and chemicals, even those that have been diluted or neutralized. To request a Hazardous Waste Pick-up, click [here](#). For more information about Environmental Compliance, see our webpage [here](#).



## Upcoming Events

[See More on Our Announcements Webpage](#)

EH&S is planning an '[EH&S Safety Expo](#)' tabling event in MMC, EC, BBC, and CTS.

Join us to learn more about our safety programs, meet the team, ask questions, and partake in safety scenarios!

### Come Meet Us from 11AM to 2PM

- June 2 @ MMC GC Panther Pit
- June 7 @ EC West Lobby
- June 9 @ BBC MSB Room 105
- June 14 @ CTS Main Lobby

