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Happy October and November! This newsletter will discuss Safety Resources you should know about and the fast-approaching deadline for the Laboratory Self Audit and the General Safety Self Audit. Remember that we are still in Hurricane Season, and with the holidays fast approaching, we must stay vigilant and prepared to ensure our safety. We aim to provide you with all the necessary information to help you be prepared. As Benjamin Franklin once said, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail."

## Newsletter Highlights

- Heads Up For This Month
- Upcoming Deadline for Lab Self Audit and General Safety Self Audit
- Safety Resources you should know about

## Heads Up For This Month:

- EH&S and the State Fire Marshall's Office are teaming up to host a **tabling event** promoting Fire **Prevention Awareness Week**. Join us, practice fire prevention skills, and talk to fire safety experts! It's on **Oct 10** in **Graham Center**, by the Panther Pit, **from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**.
- October's Safety Shoutout goes to **Annie Sevon**, FIU's Boating Safety Officer. Check out the [Safety Shoutout](#) and consider nominating someone or a group by emailing [ehs@fiu.edu](mailto:ehs@fiu.edu)!
- Celebrate Halloween and Thanksgiving safely by ensuring open flames and holiday cooking are closely monitored to prevent fire hazards.

## Upcoming Deadline for LSA and GSSA!

The Laboratory Self Audit (LSA) and the General Safety Self Audit (GSSA) are set to **close on October 31st, 2023**, one month earlier than last year.

Remember to be objective when submitting the Self-Audits, and even take the opportunity to improve processes, storage, and administrative safety controls to create a safer working and learning environment.

- LSA and GSSA are not meant to hold you accountable; they guide EH&S initiatives to address systemic issues comprehensively. If EH&S is made aware of a hazard threatening human life, we will contact the space occupants and collaborate with them to ensure that the area is safe to proceed with operations. EH&S creates a yearly Data Report that analyzes participation, hazards, and identified compliance gaps.



- Check out the 2022 LSA Data Report here: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/assets/docs/lab-safety/2022-lsa-annual-report.pdf>.
- All the reports are found on the LSA webpage: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/safety-programs/laboratory/index.html#3>.

- Participation in the Self Audits is mandatory. If you fail to comply within the specified time frame, an escalation process will be initiated. This may result in the closure of the space and its operations until a reinstatement meeting can be arranged.
- If you are unsure if your space needs to complete a self-audit or which self-audit your space needs to complete, follow this link to take a quick quiz: [https://fiu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_ePerdsPQ7gs9FCS](https://fiu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ePerdsPQ7gs9FCS).
- To help fill out the self-audits, EH&S has shared a PDF preview and a checklist beforehand. You can access them by visiting the webpage mentioned below. When you are ready to complete the self-audit, you can find the access link here:

Visit the LSA webpage: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/safety-programs/laboratory/index.html#3>.

Visit the GSSA webpage: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/safety-programs/industrial/index.html#2>.

## Safety Resources You Should Know About

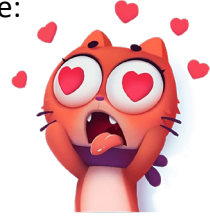
The FIU Police Department, Department of Emergency Management, and EH&S are committed to making FIU a safe environment for all. Below are some safety resources you should consider. Remember, luck always favors the prepared!

### The FIU Police Department (FIU PD):

- Discover the free personal safety app, Rave Guardian, which links you with FIU PD and your selected 'guardian(s)'. Create a safety profile that contains important information, utilize the Panic Button to communicate with FIU PD Dispatch, set up a Safety Timer that will notify your designated 'Guardians' if it is not deactivated (which can be useful if you are going to be alone for some time, or studying late at night, or at an event), and Send a Tip to FIU PD via messenger (can be anonymous)! You can download this app on your iPhone or Android phone. For more details, visit the website.: <https://police.fiu.edu/services/fiu-guardian/>.

- FIU offers a free Self-Defense Awareness & Familiarization Exchange (S.A.F.E.) Course for female-identifying students, faculty, and staff. Taught by FIU Police officers, the course is split into two parts: a classroom presentation and an intro to physical self-defense. Available at both MMC and BBC campuses. Find upcoming classes here and wear comfortable clothing: <https://police.fiu.edu/services/self-defense-awareness-familiarization-exchange-s-f-e/>.

- If you are on campus late and do not feel secure walking to your car or another building, FIU PD provides a Campus Police Escort Service throughout the campus. To request a Police Escort, call FIUPD's non-emergency line at 305-348-2626. Check out their tweet about it here: <https://twitter.com/FIUPOLICE/status/1039667857804681216>.



### Department of Emergency Management (DEM):

- FIU Alert is an emergency notification system that notifies the FIU community of imminent danger to ensure prompt and efficient communication to as many people as possible using multiple methods of communication (including phone calls and text messages). To sign up or for more information, visit: <https://dem.fiu.edu/fiu-alert/sign-up/index.html>.

- FIU provides FIU Safety Equipment throughout the campuses and sites, such as Automated External Defibrillators, Emergency Callboxes, and Evacuation Chairs. Know the location of the nearest equipment to your workplace or parking spot. Review the maps and more information about the FIU Safety Equipment here: <https://dem.fiu.edu/resources/safety-equipment/index.html>.

- The FIU Disaster Volunteer Program provides the necessary support to effectively activate and run emergency operations at FIU. Disaster Volunteers receive training on disaster preparedness, first aid, bleeding control, fire safety, and more. The Volunteers play an integral role in supporting the FIU community before, during, and after a disaster alongside DEM and emergency service personnel. Learn more or sign up here: <https://dem.fiu.edu/disaster-volunteers/index.html>.



### Department of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S):

- Report unsafe conditions, close calls, or risky working practices to EH&S. The form allows you to remain anonymous, if desired, and upload images using EH&S's reporting tool. Click the link below to access the reporting form: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/report/index.html>.

- EH&S offers multiple safety trainings that provide skills and knowledge you can use during real life emergency situations, i.e., Hands-Only CPR, First Aid, AED training, Fire Extinguisher Training and more. Check the EH&S calendar for upcoming sessions or contact the EH&S Safety Education Office at 305-348-1421 for more information: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/index.html>.



## Upcoming Laboratory Safety Seminars

Do not miss our Laboratory Safety Seminars, part of our series to promote safety awareness. We have been hosting one weekly, every Thursday, from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM. For more information, check out our Calendar on our main webpage: <https://ehs.fiu.edu/index.html>. Upcoming Topics include Hotwork, Chemical Safety, Biological Safety, and Laser Safety. Don't miss our in-person seminar for New PIs, Lab Managers, and Staff on October 27, 2023, in AHC4 101 at 1:30 PM.



Visit the EH&S Laboratory Safety webpage for more information, found [here](#).

Reach out with any questions or concerns: [ehs@fiu.edu](mailto:ehs@fiu.edu).