

# EH&S Newsletter: April 2025

## Newsletter Highlights

Safety Today, Sustainable Tomorrow.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Heads Up For This Month .....	1
Safety & Sustainability: Upcoming Events.....	2
Updated Emergency Signage: Enroll Now! .....	3
Campus Optics: One-Stop Dashboard for Safety & Compliance.....	4

## Safety Today, Sustainable Tomorrow

### Introduction

As April blooms, it's the perfect time to "plant the seeds" of safety and sustainability in our daily practices. With Earth Day around the corner, we're reminded that small, mindful changes can create a lasting impact—whether it's reducing hazards in our spaces or making eco-friendly choices. This month, we're spotlighting exciting initiatives from upcoming safety and sustainability events to the push to update emergency signage campus-wide and the upcoming launch of our streamlined chemical inventory program. Let's "go green" while staying safe, ensuring a healthier, more sustainable future for everyone!

### Heads Up For This Month

- EH&S is *digging deep* into safety and sustainability this April! Just like the Earth thrives when we care for it, our community flourishes when we prioritize safety. Whether you're *rooting* for sustainability at upcoming events, *diving in* to protect our waterways, or making *groundbreaking* strides in chemical safety, every action counts. Let's *turn over a new leaf* by staying informed, engaged, and committed to a safer, greener future!
- Consider nominating someone or a group for an EH&S' Safety Shout by visiting <https://ehs.fiu.edu>.

## Safety & Sustainability: Upcoming Events

This April, EH&S is hosting events focused on safety, sustainability, and environmental responsibility. Join us to learn about EPA regulations, protect our waterways, and promote eco-friendly initiatives. Mark your calendars and get involved!

### **DCM Open Forum: Navigating the EPA's New Methylene Chloride Rule**

Join EH&S for an open discussion on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) new rule regulating methylene chloride (DCM) under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). These changes will significantly impact FIU's research, academic, and operational activities. This forum will provide essential updates, outline compliance requirements, and address any concerns.

- **Date & Time:** April 3, 2025 | 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
- **Location:** FIU Emergency Operations Center (EOC), MMC PG5 275
- **Audience:** Faculty, researchers, lab personnel, facilities management, procurement teams, and other impacted groups
- **RSVP here:** [https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-and-office-of-sustainability-stormwater-pollution-prevention-event-8363?utm\\_campaign=widget&utm\\_medium=widget&utm\\_source=FIU+Calendar](https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-and-office-of-sustainability-stormwater-pollution-prevention-event-8363?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget&utm_source=FIU+Calendar)

### **EH&S & Office of Sustainability – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Event**

Help protect FIU's waterways! Volunteers will label storm drains across campus to raise awareness about stormwater pollution. This initiative reminds our community that only rain belongs in the drain—preventing harmful contaminants from reaching our local water bodies.

- **Date:** April 10, 2025 (Two time slots available)
- **Why It Matters:** Storm drains lead directly to water bodies without treatment, meaning pollutants like litter, oils, and chemicals can harm wildlife and water quality. Your participation helps promote responsible environmental practices.
- **Time Slots and Volunteer Sign-Up Links:**
  - 9AM to 11 AM: [https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-safety-seminar-lab-safety-awareness-week-8271?utm\\_campaign=widget&utm\\_medium=widget&utm\\_source=FIU+Calendar](https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-safety-seminar-lab-safety-awareness-week-8271?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget&utm_source=FIU+Calendar)
  - 1PM to 3PM: [https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-and-office-of-sustainability-stormwater-pollution-prevention-event?utm\\_campaign=widget&utm\\_medium=widget&utm\\_source=FIU+Calendar](https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/copy-of-ehs-and-office-of-sustainability-stormwater-pollution-prevention-event?utm_campaign=widget&utm_medium=widget&utm_source=FIU+Calendar)

### **Spring 2025 Sustainability Fair – BBC: "Our Power, Our Planet"**

EH&S is joining FIU's Office of Sustainability for the Spring 2025 Sustainability Fair at the Biscayne Bay Campus! Stop by our booth to learn more about campus safety and sustainability initiatives, grab eco-friendly giveaways, and explore ways to reduce your environmental impact.

- **Date & Time:** April 8, 2025 | 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

- **Location:** Wolfe University Center Ballrooms, BBC
- **Register here:** [bit.ly/4iCccTy](https://bit.ly/4iCccTy) or: <https://calendar.fiu.edu/event/spring-2025-sustainability-fair>

These events provide valuable insights, we look forward to seeing you there!

## Updated Emergency Signage: Enroll Now!

Ensuring first responders have **accurate hazard information** is critical for campus safety. FIU's **Emergency Signage Program** provides clear, standardized signage on doors leading into spaces containing hazardous materials or operations. These signs help first responders assess risks, respond effectively, and quickly locate hazards. EH&S shares this information with FIU Dispatch to assist first responders.

### Why This Matters

In an emergency, seconds count. FIU Dispatch and first responders rely on these signs to identify hazards and communicate with all responding teams before entering a space. If your area contains hazardous materials, equipment, or research, you are required to enroll. Even if your space is hazard-free, participation is encouraged, as it provides emergency contacts for faster response times.

### Key Requirements

- **All hazards** in a given space must be listed on signage for every entry/exit door.
- **All group leads** (e.g., Principal Investigators, Lab Managers) (up to 5) must be identified.
- **Two emergency contacts** must be provided per door.

### Shared & Open-Concept Spaces: One Sign, One Standard

For **shared spaces with a single door into the room**, all groups **must** coordinate to submit **one request** that includes all hazards, group leads, and emergency contacts.

For **shared spaces or open-concept spaces with multiple entry points**, every door must display **all hazards within the space**. However, each door may list different emergency contacts. Requests for open-concept spaces must **identify all hazards in the space and all group leads** (e.g., Principal Investigators or Laboratory Managers).

### How to Enroll

1. **Gather Your Information:** Identify all hazards in your space and confirm emergency contacts and group leads.
2. **Submit Your Request:** [https://fiu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_85KREoWG8Wv6ldg](https://fiu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_85KREoWG8Wv6ldg)
3. **Approval & Installation:** EH&S verifies the request, distributes approvals to all group leads, and installs the signage.

## Campus Optics: One-Stop Dashboard for Safety & Compliance

Managing safety and compliance at FIU is about to get **easier, faster, and more transparent** with **Campus Optics**—a **customizable, all-in-one dashboard** designed to simplify your daily responsibilities. This powerful platform will replace multiple disconnected systems, giving you **total visibility and control** over your assigned spaces.

### Why You'll Love Campus Optics

- **One Unified System** – No more switching between platforms for chemical inventory and hazardous waste requests. Now, you can seamlessly move chemicals into a waste request without re-entering information.
- **Customizable Dashboard** – Monitor all your spaces in one place. See who has access, track hazards, and manage compliance effortlessly.
- **Compliance at a Glance** – Instantly view open violations, deadlines, and corrective actions—helping you stay ahead of compliance requirements.
- **Training Management Made Easy** – Track your own training status and those of your team, with automated reminders to keep everyone up to date.
- **Integrated Incident Reporting** – Report safety incidents without logging into a separate system, ensuring faster response and documentation.

### What's Next?

We're putting the final touches on Campus Optics and will soon roll out training and onboarding. Stay tuned!