



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECURITY RECOMMENDATIONS¹

Since September 11, 2001 our awareness of terrorism has risen greatly. To reduce providing hazardous materials for terrorist use and to increase workplace safety and security the following recommendations need to be followed at all times.

The use of hazardous materials in the workplace and/or educational environment is one area where safeguards and increased security should always be in place. However remote the possibility, we should do our best to prevent the unintentional removal of biological agents, radioactive materials, and hazardous chemicals. By using common sense and by following simple guidelines, we can greatly reduce the potential for problems:

- Do not leave laboratories, or other areas where hazardous materials are present, open and unattended for long periods of time (more than a few minutes). If you leave the area, make sure the door is locked.
- When not in use, return hazardous materials to their proper storage area. Storage areas in unattended spaces should be locked.
- Maintain an inventory of hazardous materials and routinely check these materials.
- Do not allow unauthorized personnel into your work space. Question people who enter your work space and who are unfamiliar to you.
- If you notice any hazardous materials missing or believe they have been stolen, please contact the Police Department and the Environmental Health and Safety Office.

This set of security guidelines is not meant to be alarming; we are just reinforcing basic safety and security measures any laboratory should be practicing. The current national slogan is to “be alert,” which is a good motto to follow at all times. If you have any questions, please contact your supervisor and/or the police or Environmental Health and Safety Office of this workplace.

¹ Original content from University of Idaho Hazardous Materials Policies, 2008.

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