

Idaho State University

Radiation Safety Training for Custodial Personnel

Under normal conditions, entry into any radioactive materials laboratory for housekeeping duties does not pose any hazard so long as these rules are followed at all times:

- ✓ If something does not look right, call the laboratory's authorized user and/or the radiation safety department using the contacts postings on the entry door. **Report any suspicious persons near Radioactive Material laboratories to Public Safety immediately.**
- ✓ No eating, drinking, or chewing inside any radioactive material laboratories/areas. **NO EXCEPTION.**
- ✓ Strictly follow cautionary signs. Accidents happen when postings are ignored.
- ✓ Use the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, lab coat, safety glasses, when necessary, while performing custodial duties.
- ✓ Report any unusual events, such as spill or power outage in areas where radioactive materials are kept. Do not attempt to clean radioactive spill. Contact the Authorized User and/or the Radiation Safety Department
- ✓ Do not perform any work on items/areas labelled as radioactive or demarcated with yellow and magenta tape.
- ✓ Do not handle empty containers or any items labeled as radioactive. Remember, empty containers labelled radioactive do not belong to a normal trash.
- ✓ Do not attempt to operate any equipment such as X-rays machines and accelerators.
- ✓ **Ensure all radioactive material laboratory doors are kept locked at all times. Do not prop the doors open. If this is necessary, the door must be attended at all times while open and/or unlocked.**
- ✓ Do not let unauthorized personal enter the radioactive laboratories. Contact the Authorized User and/or the Radiation Safety Department for assistance.
- ✓ In case worker become accidentally contaminated with radioactive materials or if contamination is suspected:
 - Stay calm, since this is not a life-threatening event.
 - Warn others, and report it to your supervisor and the Radiation Safety Office immediately.
 - Wash off with soap-water and remove contaminated clothing.
 - Stay put to minimize further contamination.
 - Do not leave the area until cleared by the Radiation Safety Office.
- ✓ If you routinely work in areas that involve radiation and would like additional information and/or additional training on safe working practices, please contact our Office as we will be happy to assist. Remember we are here to help!

**Questions/Comments: Radiation Safety Office at 208-282-5652 or visit our web page at:
<https://www.isu.edu/radiationsafety/contact-us/>**