RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

The Texas A&M Respiratory Protection Program requires all employees who need respiratory protection, including those who wear disposable N95’s and half face-piece respirators, to receive medical surveillance, respiratory protection training, and a respirator fit test on an annual basis.

If you are working in a properly operating fume hood while handling hazardous chemicals, respiratory protection should not be necessary. If you are working with chemicals outside of a fume hood and are concerned with inhaling hazardous vapors, please contact EHS at 845-5760 or 845-2132. A site evaluation can be performed to determine if there are any engineering controls or altered lab practices that could eliminate the need for you or your staff to be exposed to these vapors. If adequate engineering controls cannot be implemented, EHS will need to perform personal air monitoring to measure your exact exposure levels and determine what, if any, form of respiratory protection would be appropriate.

PROPER GLASS DISPOSAL

Dispose of broken glass in a sturdy cardboard box with a lid. Label the box as “Broken Glass” or “Glass Disposal Only”. When the box is full, tape the lid shut and place the box in the dumpster. Empty chemical containers should be defaced, rinsed 3x (rinse is disposed of as hazardous waste), cap removed, and placed in the dumpster.

PRESCRIPTION EYEGLASSES ARE NOT PROPER EYE PROTECTION

Prescription eyeglasses do not offer adequate protection against chemical splashes or projectiles in the laboratory. Purchase safety goggles that are made to fit over eyeglasses for personnel who require them. This is part of providing the necessary and proper PPE for your lab staff. EHS can assist with the purchase of laboratory safety equipment if necessary.