

Basic Radiation Safety Tips at NC State

What To Do

1. **Never eat, drink, smoke** or apply **make-up** while in a laboratory
2. **Wear gloves and lab coats** while in the laboratory
3. **Wash hands & forearms** after using any hazardous materials
4. Routinely use **radiation detectors** while using radioactive material
5. **Wipe tests** must be done **at least once a month**
6. **Radioactive waste** must be labeled and placed in appropriate containers while **“clean” trash** should be discarded in **“clean”** containers
7. Use a fume hood to **label, transfer, and dilute** radioactive solutions
8. The *Radiation Safety Manual* should be readily **available**
9. **Visitors** should be **supervised** while in the laboratory
10. In an **EMERGENCY** immediately call NCSU CAMPUS POLICE at 515-3333

Why It's Done

Both radioactive materials and hazardous chemicals are more damaging internally than externally and smoking, eating and drinking increases the potential for ingestion.

Personal protective equipment allows for easy removal of contamination.

Removable skin contamination may be removed with soap and water.

Detectors help you to locate and identify the amount of radiation present.

Wipe tests detect any removable contamination and is the primary method used to find ^3H contamination.

Radioactive and “clean” trash are handled differently and appropriate labels allow for easy identification.

In the event the radioactive particles become airborne, the fume hood aids in preventing inhalation.

The manual is a reference for safe practices, and serves as a guidance for North Carolina regulatory compliance issues.

Supervision aids in the prevention of unnecessary exposure to hazardous materials.

NCSU Campus Police will contact the proper authority appropriate to your reported situation.