



# The Safety Net

Macon & Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University Environmental Health & Safety Newsletter

Winter 2025  
Volume 133



## We're Back and Still Here!

After a long pause for the integration with Old Dominion University, The Safety Net is back. EH&S hasn't stopped and we would like to take this opportunity to let our co-workers know what has changed since the integration, what hasn't changed, and what is on the horizon.

### What's Changed

- The institution is now "Macon and Joan Brock Virginia Health Sciences at Old Dominion University", abbreviated "VHS."
- **Respiratory Protection Program**
  - Now utilizes RedCap to send automated compliance messages to those who have not completed their fit tests, are nearing renewal, or whose fit tests have expired
  - Medical Clearances are only valid for 30 days.
  - Has its own dedicated program administrator, [Kristi Olivar](#).
- **New Occupational Safety Officer**, [Genette Stump](#).
- **Chemical Safety Data Sheets (SDS)** are now available through SciShield. All VHS employees can access the SDS module here: [https://evms.scishield.com/raft/research\\_tools/SDS](https://evms.scishield.com/raft/research_tools/SDS)

### What's Hasn't Changed

- **Research**: Each campus maintains its own, separate IBC, IACUC, Radiation Safety, and Chemical & Environmental Safety Committees. If the work will be done on the medical campus, the VHS committee will do the project reviews
- Separate **EH&S** offices. VHS EH&S is still located in Lewis Hall 2132/2142.
- VHS **EH&S** conducts inspections and a Site Visits on VHS and Medical Group facilities.
- Each campus maintains its own **Radioactive** Materials License.
- **Chemical** Inventories are still completed through SciShield.
- **Safety Trainings** are still campus specific.
- **Respiratory Protection Program** covers only VHS Medical Campus personnel.

### What's Hasn't Changed

- Initial **Chemical Hygiene Plan** training will transition to online instruction.
- **Radiation Safety Manual** and **Respiratory Protection Program** updates.
- Updated **Hazard Communication Plan** and training.


# Emergency Cold Storage

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) has multiple freezers available when emergencies occur. Currently there are four -80° freezers, one -20° freezer, and a liquid nitrogen dewar available for emergency cold storage. All EH&S freezers have [Minus80 Monitoring](#).

To be allowed access to the Emergency Freezers, you must first contact EH&S through phone, email, or in person at the EH&S Office (in Lewis Hall 2132) during regular working hours. For after-hours and weekends, call the Emergency Freezer Pager. The procedures for using the Freezer Pagers are:

1. Dial (757) 415-0014
2. After the beep, punch in the phone number of the phone you are using plus “#”
3. Hang up, and EH&S will call you back

## Emergency Freezer Access




MACON & JOAN BROCK  
VIRGINIA HEALTH SCIENCES  
**Environmental  
Health & Safety**  
AT OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

**Lewis Hall 2132**  
**Office: 757-446-5798**  
**Pager: 757-415-0014**



Call Pager



Visit Website

## Notes from the Office

### *EH&S Training Courses.*

Course	Date/Time	Location
Chemical Hygiene Plan	February 27, 2025 9:30 AM -12:30 PM	Lewis Hall 2162
	March 20, 2025 9:30 AM -12:30 PM	Lewis Hall 2162
	April 17, 2025 9:30 AM -12:30 PM	Lewis Hall 2162
Biosafety in the Laboratory Biological Materials Shipping Autoclave Safety Training OHSP Training Respiratory Protection	Available on SciShield!	<a href="https://evms.scishield.com/">https://evms.scishield.com/</a>