Custodians are required to work in various science labs throughout campus. Due to the potential hazards in the labs, each science department has developed personnel protective equipment (PPE) protocols for entering each lab. The following safety talk will help you identify what PPE is required to enter a lab and what hazards you need to be aware of.

**POTENTIAL HAZARDS:**

**Chemical Hazards:** Most common hazard at Colby. **Biological Hazards:** Potential infectious agents from animal tissue. **Magnetic/Microwave Hazards:** Large magnets and microwaves are used in the labs which can effect people with pacemakers. **Lasers:** Powerful lasers are used in physics and chemistry with the potential to damage eyes and burn skin. **Radiation:** Low level radioactive material is used in select research labs. **Sharps:** Broken glass and needles used for research.

**DOOR SIGNS:**

The primary PPE and hazard information is listed on the door sign before you enter the lab. Below is an example door sign.

**309 Biochemistry Research Lab**

**AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY**


**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL COLBY SECURITY AT EXT. 5911**

PPE must be worn in this lab at all times:

- Safety Glasses
- Gloves

**Laboratory Chemical Hazards:**

- Flammable Liquids
- Oxidizing Liquids
- Acute Toxicity
- Skin Corrosion
- Skin Irritation
- CMR, SSF, Aeration Limits

(Chemical Hazard Sheet Enclosed)
Important Considerations:

- If you notice anything unusual (odor, spill, etc) or out of place, exit the lab immediately and contact Security at 5911.
- Do not clean around chemicals or experiments that are underway, and never attempt to clean up spilled chemicals.
- Always follow the instructions on the door signs, and always wear safety glasses in labs with chemicals present.
- Never eat, drink, or apply makeup in a lab.
- Be prepared! Know where the eyewash and emergency showers are located and don’t hesitate to use them if exposed to an unknown chemical.
- Do not remove any special waste from the labs such as sharps, hazardous waste or biological waste.
- If you are uncomfortable entering a lab due to a legitimate safety concern, DON’T! Call you supervisor and explain the situation.
**Review / Discussion Questions:**

1. What concerns you most about working in Colby’s science labs?
2. Are you comfortable cleaning in these environments? If not, how can this be improved?
3. If you were exposed to a chemical what would you do?
4. If there is a fire in the lab what would you do?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Printed Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Questions, concerns or comments contact the EHS Director at extension 5504.*