

# RADIATION SAFETY NEWS NOTES

---

## Radiation Safety Refresher Training

All radiation workers, their supervisors and principal investigators approved to use radioactive materials in their laboratories must take radiation safety refresher training each year. This training is available only online from mid-January through mid-August. If you have not completed this training, now is the time to do so. **After mid-August, any worker, supervisor or PI requiring radiation safety refresher training will have to enroll in and complete initial radiation safety training at the ORCBS Training Center.**

This year the ORCBS began a new notification system for required training. E-mails are sent to all persons who are due for required training but have not yet completed it by their due date. Response to these reminders has been excellent, with most of the people receiving this reminder completing their required training.

## Survey Problems Found by the ORCBS

During the ORCBS quarterly surveys this year we have found contamination on floors and around sink drains. You **MUST** check the floor around your work, storage and waste areas every time after using radioactive material.

Floor contamination can quickly become widespread, causing a major incident, if undiscovered and tracked outside the laboratory. During previous incidents contamination has spread to offices, conference rooms, hallways, elevators, a mailroom, personal autos, and on shoes worn by the workers to their homes. The mops used by custodians to sweep the hallways have also become contaminated. *Prevent the spread of contamination – survey floors and shoes after each use of radioactive material!*

Liquid radioactive waste cannot be disposed down the drain! Any material or rinse water that is greater than twice background must be collected in waste containers for pickup and disposal by the ORCBS.

## Inventory Returns

Inventories must be returned by the due date. The NRC requires an audit of radioactive materials twice each year, which we accomplish through the inventories sent to each PI approved for possession of radioactive materials. To maintain compliance with NRC requirements, the inventory and accompanying records are kept on file by this office as evidence of this audit.

Laboratories that do not return their inventory by the due date may receive a Notice of Violation and face the possibility of suspension of their approval to use radioactive materials.

**July 2002**

**Please Post**