

Be safe this February!

February brings **National Burn Awareness Week**. As part of working and learning in CAHNRS, students and employees can be exposed to hazardous chemicals, flames, hot surfaces, and other substances that can cause burns. It is important to be aware of burn hazards, how to avoid them and how to deal with them.

QUICK REMINDERS

- **Be Responsible** -- Provide initial, refresher and hazard communication training for employees working with potential burn hazards. Take training when it is offered/required of you. Wear appropriate protective gear and/or clothing every time.
- **Be aware** -- Read and heed labels, cautions, hazard signs and symbols.
- **Thermal Burns** -- Avoid open flames, hot objects and explosions. Take care when operating stoves, ovens, microwaves, and dishwashers. Watch out for scalding liquids and steam.
- **Chemical Burns** -- Limit your exposure, don't mix, follow instructions.
- **Electrical Burns** -- Avoid contact with water while near electricity, stay away from live wires and don't overload electrical outlets.
- **Sun/Wind Exposure Burns** -- Dress appropriately and use sunscreen, lip balm, etc.

IF A BURN ACCIDENT OCCURS:

1. Remove yourself from the situation, ask for assistance, and get first aid.
2. Call 9-1-1 if the burned area is blackening, bleeding or blistering, as these are often signs of a more serious, multiple degree burn.
3. Promptly complete an [incident report](#) and let your [immediate supervisors](#) know for [investigation](#).
4. Report related hazards to WSU Environmental Health and Safety at (509) 335-3041.

Find Out More

- WSU Laboratory Safety
https://ehs.wsu.edu/labsafety/import_index.html
- Chemical Use and Disposal Safety
<https://ehs.wsu.edu/es/>
- Initial First Aid Treatment for Minor Burns
<http://ameriburn.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/burnfirstaid.pdf>