

# Bio Notes

QUARTERLY BIOSAFETY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

2025



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY  
**Institutional Planning  
 and Operations**  
 Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety

## Meet the Biosafety Team

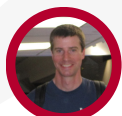


**Ryan McAllister**  
 University Biosafety Officer

### New Brunswick



**Tracy Pfromm**  
 Senior Biosafety Officer



**Brian Eggert**  
 Senior Biosafety Officer



**Jacquelyn Vidal**  
 Assistant Biosafety Officer

### Newark



**Blas Peixoto**  
 Biosafety Officer



**Robert Adcock**  
 Biosafety Officer



**Sophia Cheng**  
 Assistant Biosafety Officer

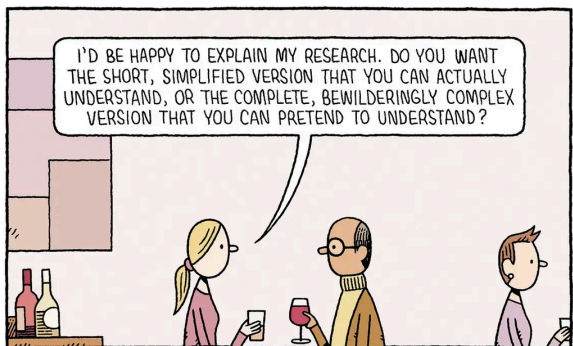
## Initial Laboratory/Biosafety/Bloodborne Pathogens Training

Completion of in-person *Laboratory Safety/Biosafety/Bloodborne Pathogens Training* is **required** prior to working in laboratory settings. Initial training classes are held all over Newark and New Brunswick campus. Log onto **myrehs.rutgers.edu** and enter the Training Calendar to see where the next session that works best for you is.

## Refresher Training

For all who already work in a laboratory setting, completion of a refresher training is **required annually** following the initial laboratory safety/biosafety/bloodborne pathogens training. Refresher training is provided online in **myrehs.rutgers.edu** through the Training Calendar under the Online Training heading. Upon selecting the refresher course, make sure that “biosafety” is included.

*View additional available trainings on MyREHS.*



TOM GAULD for NEW SCIENTIST

## Contact Biosafety

Phone: 848-445-2550

Email: [biosafety@rutgers.edu](mailto:biosafety@rutgers.edu)

Website:

<https://ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/biosafety-program>

## Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)

SAVE  
 THE  
 DATE

### IBC Submission Deadline

### IBC Meeting Date

December 31, 2024   Tuesday	January 14, 2025   Tuesday
January 22, 2025   Wednesday	February 5, 2025   Wednesday
February 25, 2025   Tuesday	March 11, 2025   Tuesday
March 19, 2025   Wednesday	April 2, 2025   Wednesday
April 29, 2025   Tuesday	May 13, 2025   Tuesday
May 21, 2025   Wednesday	June 4, 2025   Wednesday
June 24, 2025   Tuesday	July 8, 2025   Tuesday
July 23, 2025   Wednesday	August 6, 2025   Wednesday
August 26, 2025   Tuesday	September 9, 2025   Tuesday
September 17, 2025   Wednesday	October 1, 2025   Wednesday
October 28, 2025   Tuesday	November 11, 2025   Tuesday
November 19, 2025   Wednesday	December 3, 2025   Wednesday

IBC submission  
 deadlines and  
 associated meeting  
 dates

# WASTE MANAGEMENT

If you have questions regarding your regulated medical waste (RMW), please don't hesitate to reach out to the Biosafety team ([biosafety@rutgers.edu](mailto:biosafety@rutgers.edu)).

## Tips for Managing RMW

- **For RMW Disposal Requests:** Provide the contact information (name, mobile number and lab hours) of the onsite lab member responsible for access and manifest signatures. Updates can be coordinated with Greg Drusjack ([greg.drusjack@rutgers.edu](mailto:greg.drusjack@rutgers.edu))
- **Sharps Disposal:** All syringes, even without needles, are considered sharps and **MUST** be disposed of in a sharps container - not the RMW box.
- **The RMW cardboard box is only for regulated medical waste usage!**

## Glass Box Use

### CLEAN Glass ONLY

Bottles must be rinsed with marked out labels



**No Liquids**



**No Histology or Tissue Culture Slides**



**No Sharps**  
[needles, syringes, pasteur pipettes or plungers]



**No Bio/Hazardous Materials**  
[thermometers, lightbulbs, or contaminated materials]



Broken glass boxes are disposed of by Rutgers Housekeeping. They are not treated or incinerated before going to the local municipal landfill. Please protect our fellow workers and the environment by disposing hazardous materials properly.

**\*\*You can use your own sturdy cardboard box with a clear plastic liners. Label it clearly with Clean Glass Disposal.**

# Our Website

Visit our NEW Biosafety Website at

[ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/biosafety-program](http://ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/biosafety-program)

For resources on:

- Developing biosafety protocols
- Managing regulated medical waste
- Completing required training
- Anonymous reporting of biosafety issues
- Other biosafety topics

# BioAudits

BioAudits are part of the new initiative to take a more focused approach to biosafety work practices and containment.

While these are generally done simultaneously with the annual laboratory safety audit, they are separate practices and will not replace your safety audit.

Please be on the lookout for emails from our team if a BioAudit needs to be scheduled.

## REMINDERS

- Ensure all biological materials in your lab are properly registered in your IBC before including them in associated IRB, IACUC or grant applications.
- Expect IBC protocol questions related to synthetic nucleic acids in renewal questions.
- Complete the Synthetic Nucleic Acid Survey (if not already done):

[halflife.rutgers.edu/synthetic\\_biology\\_survey/](http://halflife.rutgers.edu/synthetic_biology_survey/)