

MONTHLY SAFETY NEWSLETTER

NIPISSING UNIVERSITY



HAZARD RECOGNITION

HOW TO KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR HAZARDS IN OUR WORKPLACE

We are all responsible for workplace safety! Here are some simple steps to follow to quickly assess your workplace and to recognize any potential hazards:

ENVIRONMENT ASSESSMENT:

- Take at least **20 seconds** to observe your immediate work environment
- What hazards do you see?

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION:

- Hazards can be identified in **categories** (physical, biological, chemical, thermal, electrical, etc.)
- Hazards can be related to **physical** conditions, **environmental** conditions, or **human** behaviours
- Hazards can be **acute** (immediate/short-term) or **chronic** (recurring/long-term)
- Have you **notified your supervisor** and submitted an **incident report**?

RISK ASSESSMENT:

- How **severe** is the risk of hazards to **personal health and safety**?
- How **severe** is the risk of hazards to the **physical environment**?
- How **likely** is the hazard to **continue** to occur **if not addressed**?
- You may **prioritize** what to address first based on **likelihood** and **severity**

HAZARD CONTROL:

- **Elimination** (ex: remove a rock in a path to prevent a tripping hazard)
- **Substitution** (ex: replace a frayed cable with a new one)
- **Engineering** (ex: temporary signage near a water spill to indicate danger)
- **Administrative** (ex: safe work practice procedure for maintenance staff)
- **Personal Protective Equipment** (ex: safety glasses in the laboratory)

WORKER'S RIGHTS

KNOW

You have the right to know about health and safety matters in the workplace.

PARTICIPATE

You have the right to participate in conversations and decisions that could affect your health and safety in the workplace.

REFUSE

You have the right to refuse work that could affect your health and safety in the workplace.

