

Green Labs CHECKLIST



GREEN LABS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Follow these tips to save resources, energy & money in your laboratory!

GENERAL

- Turn off equipment when not in use. This includes lights and computers.
- Share equipment and resources with other labs whenever possible
- Shut the Sash! Fume hoods are one of the most energy intensive pieces of equipment in a laboratory. Practice “shutting the sash” anytime you are not working in the hood for safety and energy efficiency

FREEZERS

- Most samples can be stored safely at slightly warmer temperatures for big energy savings:
 - Ultralow (ULT) freezers can kept at -70C instead of -80C
 - -40C and -30C freezers can be kept at -20C
- Take advantage of the \$2,000 ULT Freezer Incentive Program from CSU Facilities Management to purchase a new energy efficient ULT freezer
- Keep freezers full and fill empty space with coolers and ice packs whenever possible
- Defrost freezers to remove ice buildup regularly

WATER CONSERVATION

- Use low-flow aerators to reduce faucet flow
- Invest in a waterless water bath

- Increase autoclave efficiency by coordinating with others to share space

WASTE REDUCTION

- Use glass whenever possible
- At CSU, any plastic labeled #1-7 that is not contaminated with biohazardous materials can be disposed of in standard mixed recycling. Most laboratory plastics are composed of polyethylene (#1), polypropylene (#5), or polystyrene (#6).

PURCHASING

- Consolidate and combine orders
- Purchase from vendors that use reduced packaging
- Purchase long-lived items like LED bulbs

CHEMICALS

- Maintain a chemical inventory
- Substitute green chemicals as alternatives wherever possible