

What to Know About Emergency Eyewashes and Safety Showers

General Guidelines

- Know the nearest locations of emergency eyewashes and safety showers in the area.
- Understand how to properly use them before they are needed in an emergency.
- Keep the area around eyewashes and safety shower clear at all times.
- Be aware of electrical hazards. Keep energized electrical equipment away from areas where eyewashes and safety showers are located.
- Make sure the eyewashes and shower are in good operating conditions at all times.
 - Cover the eye wash spouts with cap to keep them clean. The caps should be easy to remove.
 - It is recommended that eyewashes and showers be tested at least monthly by department personnel to ensure proper function. If the equipment is not working properly, submit a work-order to Facilities & Services (FS).
 - Facilities & Services also performs an inspection annually to ensure the equipment is functioning properly. This inspection is documented on the equipment inspection tag.
- Use eyewashes and showers for their intended purpose only. Never use them for cleaning lab or shop equipment, personal objects or for other non-emergency purposes.



Using Emergency Eyewashes & Sink Drench Hoses

- Use immediately if your eyes are exposed to a hazardous chemical.
- Never let rusty water or overflowing drains stop you from using an eyewash.
- Flush your eyes for at least 15 minutes keeping your eyes open and rotating them in all directions to remove contamination.
- Seek medical attention immediately and report the incident to your supervisor as soon as possible.



Using Emergency Safety Showers

- Use immediately if your skin is exposed to a hazardous chemical.
- Never let rusty water or overflowing drains stop you from using a safety shower.
- Immediately flush the affected area with copious quantities of water for at least 15 minutes.
- Protect your eyes from inadvertent contamination.
- Remove contaminated clothing, jewelry, and shoes. Do not let modesty slow you down or prevent you from thoroughly decontaminating your body.
- Seek medical attention immediately and report the incident to your supervisor as soon as possible.

