

# SAFETY PRACTICES

## FINE ARTS STUDIOS



Boston College  
Fine Arts Department  
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### HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS

**How to determine if a chemical is hazardous:**

- Read the label
- Review the MSDS sheet (Material Safety Data Sheet). These information sheets are provided by the manufacturer and contain information such as, health hazards and safe handling.

The following are generally three types of chemicals used in the studios:

#### **Odorless Paint Thinner**

- can cause skin and eye irritation
- excessive inhalation can cause drowsiness, headaches, nausea and lack of coordination
- chronic exposure can have an intoxicating effect

#### **Mineral Oil**

- minimal irritation to eyes
- no expected skin irritation
- inhalation, ingestion, or aspiration can cause minor health related problems

#### **Oil Paints**

- check MSDS for pigment content and refer to health hazard data.

### HAZARDOUS WASTE

Boston College has a waste disposal program in accordance with applicable regulations and to assure minimal harm to people and the environment. Follow these procedures for safe disposal.

-Refer to EHS web site for complete details, [www.bc.edu/ehs](http://www.bc.edu/ehs)

- Sink disposal is strictly prohibited
- Use appropriate containers for storage
- Use BC's yellow hazardous waste label
- Use of a funnel is only allowed when pouring, *otherwise containers must be kept closed at all times*

- Store waste in accumulation areas only
- Only one container per waste stream
- Once a container is full, contact Instructor to notify EHS for pickup. Prior to pick up, complete inventory form and provide at time of pick up to EHS staff.



## EQUIPMENT

### Rinse tanks

- Use rinse tanks to clean brushes
- Do not clean contaminated brushes in sinks
- Empty rinse tanks into hazardous waste containers following guidelines

### Flammable Storage Cabinets

- Store flammable materials in storage cabinets
- Access to cabinets should be kept clear
- Do not store combustible material, (paper, boxes, etc.) in or on top of cabinet

### Eye Wash Station

- Must be kept clear & clean at all times, located in the sink area of the studios
- In the event of eye exposure, rinse eye for at least 15 minutes, contact Health Services

### Personal Protective Equipment

- PPE can include: gloves, eyewear, aprons
- PPE should always be used when cleaning up spills
- Check MSDS to determine appropriate PPE during general use.

## FIRE SAFETY

- Determine location of nearest:

Fire exits

Fire alarms

Extinguishing equipment

- If you detect a fire:

Pull alarm

Evacuate area

Contact BCPD

- Use exit stairways, not elevators in the event of a fire
- Do not block exit stairways or any fire safety equipment
- Store flammable materials in cabinets

## SPILL CLEAN UP

- Locate spill response equipment
- Small spills may be cleaned up by personnel involved
- Large spills, notify Instructor and the spill will be managed by EH&S personnel. Do not clean up! Isolate and identify material.
- Avoid exposure. Use personal protective equipment
- Waste from clean ups should be bagged and labeled. Contact the Instructor, EHS will schedule a waste pickup.

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Fire: BCPD 2-4444  
Accidents: BCPD 2-4444  
Injuries:  
Health Services 2-3225  
Chemical: EHS 2-0308  
Spills: BCPD 2-4444

*Report all incidents to your Instructor*

Environmental Health & Safety - EHS  
Boston College Police Department-BCPD

## WEB SITES

Boston College EHS office  
[www.bc.edu/ehs](http://www.bc.edu/ehs)

Boston College Police Dept.  
[www.bc.edu/bcpd](http://www.bc.edu/bcpd)

Boston College Fine Arts Dept.  
[www.bc.edu/finearts](http://www.bc.edu/finearts)

Center for Safety in the Arts  
[www.artswire.org/70/1/csa](http://www.artswire.org/70/1/csa)

Safety Rules in the Arts  
[www.goshen.edu/CHO/art.htm](http://www.goshen.edu/CHO/art.htm)

**NO SMOKING IN STUDIOS!**