

“Wet Lab” Maintenance

General Maintenance, Flooring, & Cleaning Standards

University Facilities (UF)

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This document establishes official guidelines for what services Facilities provides to “wet labs.”

Definition of a “Wet Lab”

Laboratories where chemicals, biohazards, radiation, lasers, and/or strong magnets are used as part of teaching or research.

General Maintenance

“Wet laboratories” will receive routine maintenance (changing light bulbs, repairing doors, locks, etc.) when requested. Any work on lab equipment or lab specific furniture will be provided on a charge-back status. An authorized lab representative must be available while work is being done by Facilities Representatives in any lab with a Yellow or Red dot on the lab safety sign. This is required to assure lab safety.

Flooring

Standard Flooring

“Wet laboratories” shall be finished with heavy duty, chemically resistant, impermeable, slip resistant seamless flooring with integral base. Tiles and wooden planks are not acceptable in these areas. See Green Book Standards 09 60 00 Flooring.

Any “wet lab” that currently has flooring not in compliance with the standard should be brought to standard as soon as the Department Budget allows. Floors that are not to standard will not receive restorative maintenance such as stripping or waxing.

Floors that meet the standard may be scrubbed with an auto-scrub type machine only after the floor is deemed to be acceptable for such actions by the Office of Research Safety. This service is best performed when the lab is empty.

Custodial Services

In general, the cleaning of a “wet lab” is the responsibility of the lab users. Spills should be remedied immediately by the technician who knows what the spill contains and the proper procedure for remediating the situation. The custodians cannot be expected to know what risks or proper procedures are needed for each lab. Custodial will provide limited services to labs marked with a Green Dot on a routine basis. Labs with a Yellow Dot will receive the same level of service on the day that the lab technician is available to oversee their safety and should be scheduled in advance with the assigned Custodian. The service may not exceed the standard frequency of other Teaching / Research labs.

Standard Custodial Services

What to Expect: Occupants are responsible for cleaning all countertops, desktops, and other surfaces where experiments are performed and properly disposing of broken glass and other lab hazards. Custodial will not move items on the floor or cleanup wet spills or chemicals on the floor. Floors will not be “waxed.”

Teaching Lab – Floors will be dust mopped and wet mopped & non-hazardous trash will be emptied two times per week.

Research Lab – Floors will be dust mopped and wet mopped & non-hazardous trash will be emptied one time per week.

If a non-hazardous waste receptacle (trash or recycling) needs to be emptied on a day other than the scheduled day, please place container outside the door and your custodian will address it and return it to the same place.