

Safety & Environmental Newsletter

April 2012



OSHA ADOPTS GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM

OSHA Adopts GHS

OSHA announced on 3/20/2012 that it has adopted the new Globally Harmonized System (GHS) for hazard communication. Additional information is available at <http://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/HCSFactsheet.html>

With the adoption of GHS you must begin to take action to adopt GHS into your site's safety programs. Some of the major changes include:

- **Hazard classification:** The definitions for most of the physical and health hazards have been changed. There are several new hazards and drastically different definitions for many of the hazard classes in the original standard.
- **Labels:** Chemical manufacturers and importers will be required to provide a label that includes a harmonized signal word, pictogram, and hazard statement for each hazard class and category. Standardized precautionary statements must now be provided on each label
- **Safety Data Sheets:** Formerly called Material Safety Data sheets, these sheets must now be in a 16-section format, with precise requirements for what must be in each section.
- **Information and training:** Employers are required to train workers by December 1, 2013, on the new labels elements and safety data sheets format to facilitate recognition and understanding.

What Do the New Pictograms Look Like?

There are **nine pictograms** under the GHS to convey the health, physical and environmental hazards. The final Hazard Communication Standard requires eight of these pictograms, the exception being the environmental pictogram, as environmental hazards are not within OSHA's jurisdiction. The hazard pictograms and their corresponding hazards are shown below.

Health Hazard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive Toxicity • Respiratory Sensitizer • Target Organ Toxicity • Aspiration Toxicity 	Flame <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-Heating • Emits Flammable Gas • Self Reactives • Organic Peroxides 	Exclamation Mark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritant (skin and eye) • Skin Sensitizer • Acute Toxicity • Narcotic Effects • Respiratory Tract Irritant • Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)
Gas Cylinder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases Under Pressure 	Corrosion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin Corrosion/Burns • Eye Damage • Corrosive to Metals 	Exploding Bomb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-Reactives • Organic Peroxides
Flame Over Circle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	Environment (Non-Mandatory) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic Toxicity 	Skull and Crossbones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)

Effective Completion Date	Requirement(s)	Who
December 1, 2013	Train employees on the new label elements and SDS format.	Employers
June 1, 2015 December 1, 2015	Compliance with all modified provisions of this final rule, except: The Distributor shall not ship containers labeled by the chemical manufacturer or importer unless it is a GHS label	Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers
June 1, 2016	Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.	Employers

From a Facility perspective we will need to comply with the new requirements according to the established timeline. GPR 1700.8 Goddard Hazard Communication Program will need to be revised as necessary along with employee training.

Safety Awareness Campaign May 1, 2012



Piping Plovers have arrived!



Piping Plover

Piping Plovers are small shorebirds which breed only in North America in three geographic regions: the Atlantic Coast, the Northern Great Plains, and the Great Lakes. The Piping Plover migratory and breeding season starts at Wallops Island in Mid-march and ends in the beginning of September. During this timeframe, the northern portion of Wallops Island past the rope barrier is closed. No one is allowed past the rope barrier.



Piping Plover nest.

Piping Plovers became protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1986. The Endangered Species Act provides penalties for taking, harrassing, or harming the piping plover and affords some protection to its habitat. Wallops is required by the Endangered Species Act and the 2010 Biological Opinion issued by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to monitor Piping Plovers.



Baby plover napping in a tire track.



Piping Plover in shell flat.

Piping Plovers are about 7 inches long with sand-colored plumage on their back and crown. Breeding birds have a single black breast-band, a black bar across the forehead, bright orange legs and bill, and a black tip on the bill.



Baby plovers buried in soft sand.

The same coloration that makes it difficult for predators to see Piping Plovers also makes it difficult for us to see them. Piping Plovers commonly nest in sparsley vegetated areas, sand flats, or shell flats. Birds, chicks, and eggs in soft sand can be very difficult to see, so please be careful when driving on the Recreational Beach.



Plovers love to walk in tire tracks.

For more information contact Shane Whealton at extension 1090 or Joel Mitchell at extension 1127.

Did you know?? The Environmental Office will accept unwanted unexpired chemicals and search for a user. Submitting unexpired chemicals for reuse reduces the pounds of chemicals which must be disposed of as hazardous waste. For more information, contact Marianne Simko at extension 2127.



Celebrate Earth Day! April 26 2012!!

11:00 to 1:00 at the Picnic Pavillion

Wallops Earth Day celebration this year will feature alternative fueled vehicles, the Marine Science Consortium touch tank, A&N Electric Cooperative, the Eco-club Community Garden, Code 600, Maryland Forest Service trees, Furnacetown historical sustainable exhibit, a rain barrel demonstration, music, snow cones, and solar S'mores.

And don't forget, if you haven't already sent in your review of a green product you've tried go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/C7QP98B> . It's only 4 questions, it's anonymous, and your feedback may convince someone else to try an environmentally friendly product. Reviews of products used at home or work can be submitted. Look for the results at Earth Day.