

**OCTOBER
2026**



RUTGERS UNIVERSITY
**Institutional Planning
and Operations**
Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety

BIOSAFETY AND BIOSECURITY MONTH

October 2026 marks the 13th anniversary of the Biosafety and Biosecurity Month. The Rutgers Biosafety team invites you to further explore this field and profession through printable games and a university-wide challenge.

The Biosafety Bingo Challenge will run from **October 9th to October 30th**. The grand prize winner will receive a Biosafety Team-approved spill kit for their lab!

Biosafety Bingo Challenge

It's time to put your lab's best (or silliest) foot forward and complete the bingo board with your photos or videos of the prompts. Creative liberties can be taken, but be sure to be careful and follow ALL the safety rules in the lab. For example, a photo of eating food on the lab benchtop will not be counted, but a photo of a children's plastic food kit would be counted.

Submit the Bingo Board to biosafety@rutgers.edu when you are ready. Only one submission per lab. Submissions with at least six verified bingos will be entered into a random drawing.

Additional resources on Biosafety and Biosecurity month can be found on the [ABSA Website](#) or on any associated chapter sites.



"My cell number? It's about 30 trillion."

Contact Biosafety

Phone: 848-445-2550

Email: biosafety@rutgers.edu

Website:

<https://ipo.rutgers.edu/rehs/biosafety-program>

Service Animals in Laboratories

Service animals are welcome at Rutgers; however, we also care about their welfare. To make bringing your service animal into the laboratory smooth and safe, you will need a risk assessment from REHS. This will help ensure that all necessary precautions are in place to keep your service animal safe and address any unexpected issues that might arise and cause harm. The assessment also helps us stay in line with the relevant safety regulations and ADA requirements.

Contact biosafety@rutgers.edu to request your risk assessment to safely bring your service animal into the lab.



Meet Sampson, the goodest service dog

TRANSPORTING BIOLOGICALS

REHS Biosafety can help ensure your shipment of biological materials is ready. While we do not package the materials for you directly, Biosafety helps prepare you for the task through our training modules or via email correspondence.

IATA Category A, IATA Category B, and Materials of Trade (MOT) training modules are offered on MyREHS under the Training Calendar. All training requires up-to-date Lab Safety/Biosafety/Bloodborne Pathogen or Clinical Health and Safety Training.

Which training is right for you?

IATA Category B

IATA Category B training is for Rutgers employees who are going to ship Category B biological materials, exempt specimens, or ship with dangerous goods (e.g. dry ice). This module includes the training necessary for driving of biological samples and dangerous goods.

Please register for a session under the Training Calendar.

Materials of Trade

Materials of trade (MOT) training is for Rutgers employees who are driving biological or dangerous goods on public roads.

This training does not include any shipping preparation training. Please reach out to the Biosafety team to access this training module.

IATA Category A

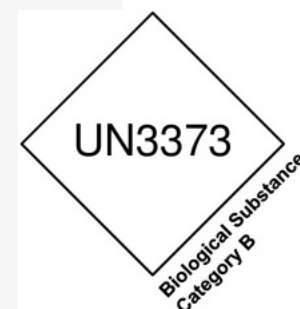
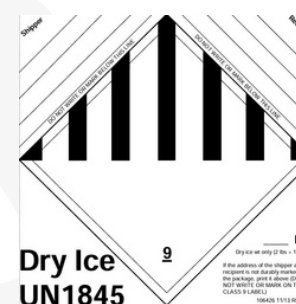
IATA Category A training is for Rutgers employees who are shipping Category A infectious substances.

This training is held once annually. Please reach out to the Biosafety team to determine if this training is necessary for you.

Reminder: Research materials may NOT be transported on any forms of public transportation, mass transit, or rideshare

Common Packaging Labels

These are the current labels (not to accurate size) for packaging. Ensure you are utilizing the accurate up to date to avoid delays/returns of your shipments and potential fines.



Biosafety can also send printable versions. Please reach out if you require the printable versions or verification of the correct labels.

NIH BIOSAFETY MODERNIZATION UPDATES

The NIH's Biosafety Modernization Initiative has released the draft version of the NIH Draft Policy available [here](#). The NIH has compiled a table of proposed changes ([Draft NIH Biosafety Policy - Table of Changes](#)) for review and commentary.

Public comments regarding the drafts for the NIH Biosafety Policy for Research Involving Biohazards is being accepted currently at [NIH Biosafety Modernization Initiative - Public Comment](#) until October 19th. Please take a moment to review the proposed changes to the NIH Guidelines and submit comments if you see fit or reach out to biosafety@rutgers.edu.



While the NIH Draft Biosafety Policy has been released, all IBC protocols are currently beholden to the NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules. Submission of new IBC protocols or amendments involving biological materials will continue to be reviewed under the NIH Guidelines.

Biosafety Bingo Challenge

Where to get a Sharps Container	Lab Group Selfie	Biosafety Cabinet	Completed Regulated Medical Waste Label	Appropriate Home for Bunsen Burner
Favorite Lab Equipment	HEPA Filter on Vacuum Flask	Demonstrate Hand Washing	Location of Annual Online Training	Centrifuge Safety Cups
Biohazard Labels	Specimen Freezer	Free Space	Clean Lab Bench	BSC Certification Within One Year
Lab Member Dressed in Full PPE	Caution Sign	Biosafety Team Member in the Wild	Appropriate Secondary Containers	Draw a Biological Organism
Demo of One Glove Rule	Approved Disinfectant	Item Not Allowed in Laboratory Space	Biology Meme / Comic	Where to get a RMW box

Submit your board to biosafety@rutgers.edu by Friday, October 30th.

Please ensure you label the photos/videos so that board can be verified.

The biosafety team will reach out in November to the winner of the challenge with the prize.

Good luck!

Solid Lab Waste Disposal

Match each object to its correct disposal container



Sharps Container
A



RMW Box
B



Broken Glass Box
C



Regular Trash
D

Reminder:
RMW should be pre-treated prior to disposal as required by IBC protocol



Microscope Slide



Pasteur Pipette



Scalpel/Razor



Broken Beaker



Pipette Tips



Paper Towel



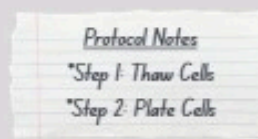
Syringe



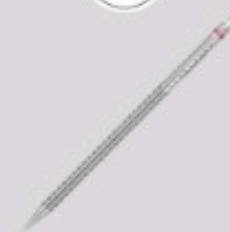
Eppendorf Tubes



Filter Syringe



Notes



Serological Pipette



Culture Flask



Biosafety Games

Biosafety Crossword Puzzle

Word Bank

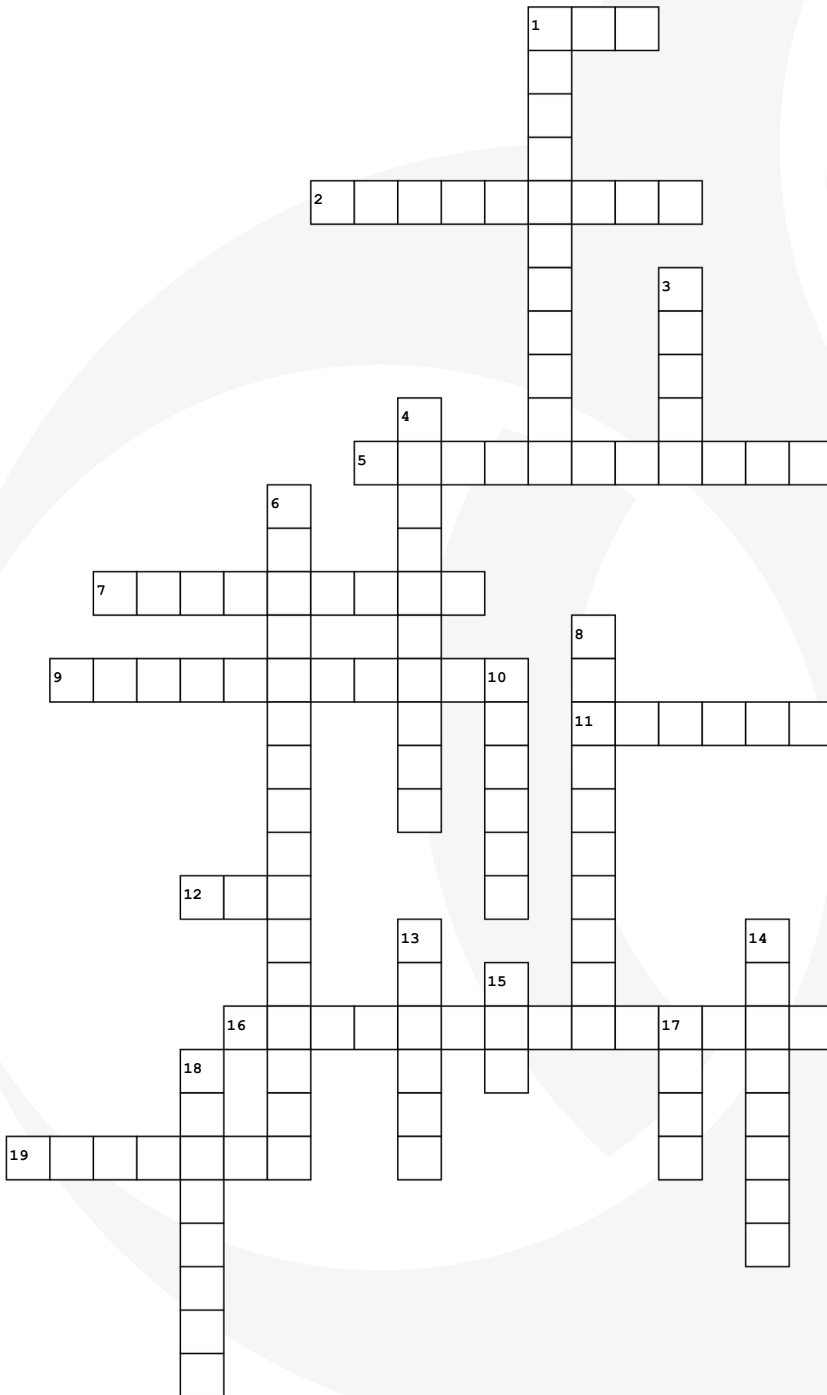
ANNUALLY • BIOLOGICAL • BIOSAFETY CABINET • BSC • DISINFECTED • DOORKNOB • EXPLOSION
• FACESHIELD • GLOVES • HANDWASHING • IACUC • IBC • LABCOAT • MOLD • REPLICATION •
RISKASSESSMENT • RMW • SAFETY CUPS • SHARPS • TWO THIRDS

Across

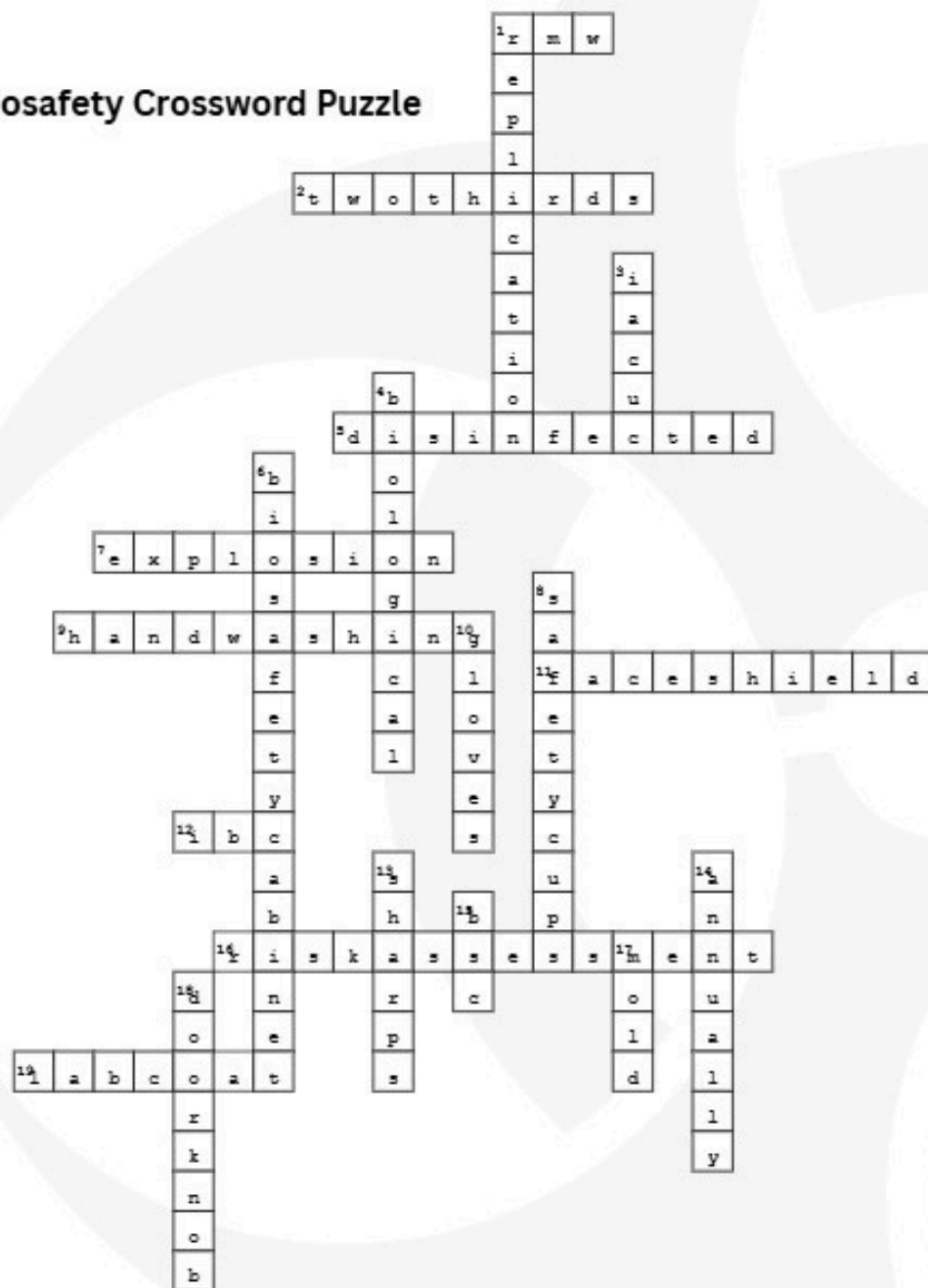
1. Contaminated culture plates are treated prior to disposal as this type of waste.
2. RMW containers should be sealed when they reach approximately this fraction of their capacity to prevent overfilling.
5. Before being placed in RMW, tissue culture plasticware should be _____ using freshly prepared 10% bleach.
7. Dry ice or liquid nitrogen sealed within ampules or vials may generate this hazard as temperatures increase and pressure builds.
9. After removing gloves, perform this important hygiene practice.
11. Face protection that should be used in addition to safety glasses when working with Liquid Nitrogen.
12. Committee responsible for reviewing recombinant DNA and other biohazardous research.
16. Process used to evaluate hazards and implement risk mitigation measures before work begins.
19. Before handling materials in a BSL-2 lab, this garment should be donned to protect clothing and skin.

Down

1. Many commonly used research viral vectors are intentionally designed to lack the ability for this process, reducing the likelihood but not eliminating the possibility of producing infectious virus.
3. Committee responsible for reviewing research involving animals.
4. Glassware contaminated with this type of material requires disposal as sharps waste.
6. Open manipulation of human blood should occur inside this primary containment device.
8. A centrifuge safety feature used to contain aerosols.
10. The most frequently changed piece of PPE in a BSL-2 lab.
13. Filter syringes, even without needles, should be discarded in this puncture-resistant waste container.
14. To verify that containment and airflow functions remain within required specifications, Biosafety Cabinets should be recertified at what routine frequency?
15. Acronym for the primary containment device used when conducting aerosol-generating procedures.
17. Cardboard boxes should not be stored or used in cold rooms or fridges due to the risk of what?
18. Gloves must be removed before touching this common lab exit point.



Biosafety Crossword Puzzle



ANSWER KEY

Solid Lab Waste Disposal



Microscope Slide

A



Pasteur Pipette

A



Scalpel/Razor

A



Broken Beaker

C



Pipette Tips

B



Paper Towel

D



Syringe

A



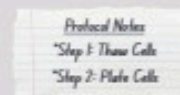
Eppendorf Tubes

B



Filter Syringe

A



Notes

D



Serological Pipette

B



Culture Flask

B