RADIATION SAFETY NEWS NOTES

Survey Problems from 2005

- *Floor contamination must always be reported to the ORCBS radiation safety staff as soon as possible, even if the area has been decontaminated or covered and labeled.* We want to be sure no contamination is tracked outside the work area or is on shoes. A survey record must also be made showing where the contamination was and the activity. This record is kept in your survey book with your periodic surveys.

Sanctions are very seldom imposed for floor contamination unless there has been a deliberate misuse or the lab failed to adequately monitor or survey during and after the use of radioisotopes.

- *The MSU Food Policy prohibits all consumable items in areas where radioactive, chemical and biological materials are used, stored or disposed.* This includes food, beverages, medications, cosmetics, chewing gum or any item meant to be ingested.

Do not put food wrappers, beverage containers or food material in the waste receptacles in labs since this indicates “evidence of consumption” to an inspector and may result in a violation or sanction.

- *All radioactive materials must be secured to prevent tampering or removal by unauthorized persons.* Please continue to maintain the security of your radioactive sources, samples and waste.

Laboratory Moves

*Please contact the ORCBS if your laboratory is moving to another location or you are leaving the University.* The ORCBS will move your chemicals and radioactive materials, put up appropriate signs and postings in the new location, and close out the old location by removing old postings and labels and doing a complete survey for radioactive contamination.

Radiation Safety Refresher Training

*All radiation workers, their supervisors and principal investigators approved to use radioactive materials are required to have annual radiation safety refresher training.* This training will be available online from mid-February through August. The ORCBS sends e-mail reminders to persons who are due for required training.