

## DOES YOUR LAB HAVE OLD, BROKEN, UNUSED or UNWANTED EQUIPMENT?



Before arranging for these items to go to UK Surplus, or removing them from the primary lab space, be aware that the lab equipment is required to be “cleared” by Research Safety representatives for removal from the lab. This “equipment clearance” process verifies that all hazardous materials have been removed and cleaned from the equipment prior to its removal from the lab.

Below are directions for preparing lab equipment for the Research Safety Clearance process. When equipment is ready for us to tag it as “cleared”, please reach out to [labsafety@uky.edu](mailto:labsafety@uky.edu) or <https://researchsafety.uky.edu/chemical-safety/requesting-assistance> to schedule a time for us to come to the lab.

### General Guidance for Cleaning:

Decontaminate all equipment that has been used in conjunction or contaminated with hazardous materials (biohazards, hazardous chemicals, radioactive materials).

1. Clean inside and outside of equipment with soap and water.
2. Wipe down inside and outside of equipment.
  - If used in conjunction with **biohazardous** materials, disinfection is also required. After cleaning, wipe down with a suitable disinfectant appropriate for any agent(s) in use and that is specified on the laboratory’s Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) registration.



- If used in conjunction with **radioactive materials**, consult the Radiation Safety Team at (859) 323-6276.
- If used in conjunction with **hazardous chemicals**, consult the manufacturer's SDS for the **chemicals** used to verify compatibilities with other substances. If compatible, clean chemical residues with water and/or detergent.

Below you will find specific decontamination information for common laboratory

#### equipment. **Refrigerators/Freezers**

1. Clean out refrigerator and defrost freezer if present
2. Refrigerators and freezers must be emptied of all contents
3. Wipe down, clean all detritus and residues
4. If used in conjunction with biohazards, disinfect

#### **Incubators and water baths**

1. These must be drained of all standing water including water in water-jacketed incubators.
2. Wipe down, clean all detritus and residues
3. If used in conjunction with biohazards, disinfect

#### **Liquid nitrogen dewars**

1. Remove contents of dewar.
2. Allow any remaining liquid nitrogen to evaporate from dewar in a well-ventilated area.
3. Wipe down, clean all detritus and residues
4. If used in conjunction with biohazards, disinfect

#### **Biological Safety Cabinets (BSC)**

1. Remove all contents from the BSC (decontaminate items before removing them from the cabinet)
2. Wipe down inside and outside exposed surfaces with a disinfectant solution such as 10% bleach solution followed by water or 70% ethanol to remove bleach residue. At no time should the user attempt to access the inner mechanical system of the BSC.

In certain cases, BSCs may need to be **decontaminated by a certified contractor prior to removing from the lab** or before being used by the next laboratory occupant. If you are exiting a laboratory that contains a BSC, please contact the Biosafety team at (859) 257-1073 at least one month prior to your exit date for determination. If it is determined a professional decontamination by a third party is required, this will allow sufficient time for scheduling this procedure.