Animal Care Technician



Required PPE (click icon for PPE examples and information)









Click here to view Required/Recommended Safety Trainings

Work Duties	Hazards	Recommendations
Animal handling	Physical injuries such as bites and scratches. Contracting zoonotic diseases. Having allergic reactions. Exposure to anesthetic agents.	Always wear gloves and other appropriate personal protective equipment when handling animals. If possible, always try to handle animals in a well ventilated area.
Operate autoclave	High temperatures that could cause burns.	Always wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures when operating autoclave.
Lifting and reaching	Strains and sprains.	Always know your weight limit, lift with your legs, get help if needed.
Computer workstation	Musculoskeletal disorders, eye/body strain and fatigue.	Ensure workstation is ergonomically correct for the person using the workstation.
Using office equipment	Electrocution, electrical shock, cuts, bruising, pinching and miscellaneous injuries.	Ensure all electrical equipment is properly grounded (i.e. three prong electrical plugs) and in proper working order before using. Strictly follow all manufactures precautions and recommendations. Ensure all doors and drawers are fully secured. Do not overload shelves.

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Using cleaning chemicals	Skin and eye irritation, chemical burns and chemical inhalation.	Be aware of surroundings, co-workers and pedestrians. Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Strictly follow manufacturers recommendations and precautions. Read SDS sheets prior to mixing or applying.
Equipment maintenance	Burns, electrocution, electrical shock, dismemberment, bruising, broken bones, hearing loss, blisters and struck by foreign objects.	Always read and follow all manufactures labels/ markings on the tool prior to use. Inspect the tool prior to use to ensure proper working order. Ensure tool/equipment is nonoperational when performing maintenance and attaching or detaching equipment. Use GFCI protected electrical outlets. Use appropriate PPE when using tools. Properly store tool after use.
Using motorized/electrical tools and equipment	Burns, electrocution, electrical shock, dismemberment, bruising, broken bones, hearing loss, blisters and struck by foreign objects.	Always read and follow all manufactures labels/ markings on the tool prior to use. Inspect the tool prior to use to ensure proper working order. Ensure tool/equipment is nonoperational when performing maintenance and attaching or detaching equipment. Use GFCI protected electrical outlets. Use appropriate PPE when using tools. Properly store tool after use.
Obstructions (stacked cages, hoses, carts, etc)	Slips, trips and falls	Ensure all walking and working surfaces have been properly maintained, properly lit, are free of debris and remove potential tripping hazards. Use handrails when using stairs.



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Exposure to loud noise	Loss of hearing or damage to ear.	Wear appropriate hearing protection and become a member of OSU Hearing Protection Program if necessary.
Sharps exposure	Needlestick	Always follow sharps safety procedures. Do not recap needles or remove needles from syringes.
Chemical exposure	Inhalation of fumes, skin and lung irritation	Wear a respirator and other PPE as the SDS recommends. Work in well-ventilated areas.
Anesthetic gasses	Inhalation of fumes, skin and lung irritation	Wear a respirator and other PPE as the SDS recommends. Work in well-ventilated areas.

