

ULAR Animal Care / Cage Wash



Required PPE



Work Duties	Hazards	Recommendations
Operate rack washer	Hot water could cause burns. Loud noises could cause hearing damage. Pinching hazards present.	Always wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures when handling rack washer.
Operate autoclave	High temperatures that could cause burns.	Always wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures when operating autoclave.
Working with steam heat	High temperatures that could cause burns.	Always wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures when operating autoclave.
Fill clean cages	Strains and sprains. Pinching hazards present.	Always know your weight limit, lift with your legs, get help if needed. Wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures.
Using dump stations/empty dirty cages	Strains and sprains. Could inhale allergens/dust.	Always know your weight limit, lift with your legs, get help if needed. Wear dust mask or respirator if you are medically cleared to wear one and have completed respirator fit test.
Working in standing water	Slips and falls, electric shock if around electricity.	Be sure any equipment is de-energized when in water.
Lifting and reaching	Strains and sprains.	Always know your weight limit, lift with your legs, get help if needed.

ULAR Animal Care / Cage Wash

Work Duties	Hazards	Recommendations
Cage rack transport	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.
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.



ULAR Animal Care / Cage Wash

Work Duties	Hazards	Recommendations
Using ladders or step ladders	Ladder collapsing; Slipping and falling from ladder	Inspect ladder before use. Use ladder at proper height. Make sure the ladder is assembled, locked and on level ground. Do not exceed weight limit for ladder. Do not stand on the top or top rung of ladder and make sure a co-worker is holding ladder if any higher than a step-ladder.
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 manufacturer's 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.
Loud noise exposure	Loss of hearing or damage to ear.	Wear appropriate hearing protection and become a member of OSU Hearing Protection Program if necessary.
Exposure to heat/humidity	Heat exhaustion, sunstroke, and sunburn	Wear proper clothing, take frequent breaks, stay hydrated.
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.
Handling cage wires	Cutting and pinching hazards.	Wear appropriate PPE and utilize proper procedures when handling cage wires.