





# General Laboratory Safety – Geotechnical Soils Lab

There are potential hazards from:

-  **glassware**
-  **dust**
-  **sources of heat**
-  **soil type**

*At all times be knowledgeable about the equipment and material you are handling and organize both your thoughts and the laboratory space you are using.*

- IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND - ASK!
- Obtain the proper training and read the associated documents/SOPs/manuals before you use any equipment.
- Do NOT eat, drink, smoke or apply cosmetics in any laboratory.
- Footwear must have enclosed toes and heels (**no sandals**).
- Wash hands with soap and water before leaving the work area – even if you wore gloves.
- Report any and all accidents immediately to your supervisor.
- Use laboratory equipment only for its intended purpose.
- Do not perform unauthorized experiments.
- Use the correct personal protective equipment for your work (eg. safety goggles/glasses, gloves, dust hood and/or snorkel, and/or dust mask, oven mitts and long sleeves when using ovens).
- Confine long hair, loose clothing or jewellery when in laboratory.
- Practise good housekeeping. Clean up spills immediately. Keep the workbench clear of all but the required materials. Keep aisles free of obstruction.
- A telephone is located in the lab, use for emergency: UW Police can be reached at ext. 22222
- Know the location of fire exits, pull-stations, and extinguishers
- Avoid working alone at night or on weekends (use a buddy system with a friend, partner, etc).
- Keep labs locked when unoccupied.