

# **Required Safety Training**

## **For Plant, Soil & Insect Sciences Employees and Student Employees**

If an employee works in an area where there are hazardous materials, all necessary **Federal, State, and University training requirements** must be fulfilled. The University **Provost** has mandated that only individuals who have successfully completed the required **annual** Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) **Hazardous Waste Management** and **Right-to-Know** trainings are permitted to work in laboratories or similar-type facilities. In addition, if an individual actually performs laboratory bench work in that facility, **annual** **Laboratory and Fire Safety** training is necessary. Also, **Worker Protection Standard** (WPS) **Training is required every 5 years** for all individuals who **use any greenhouse or other facility/field where pesticides are applied**. WPS training is **required, even if someone does not personally apply or use the pesticides themselves**. Finally, specialized training in the areas of **Radiation Safety** and **Bloodborne Pathogens** are required **only if** a research protocol dictates the need (**anyone anticipating the use of radioactive materials or blood/tissue materials MUST first contact EH&S to have protocols approved and training requirements assigned**).

**Supervisors** of individuals who have training requirements **must be trained themselves as well**, even if they do not perform the actual work. Also, the University has mandated that **Supervisors are responsible for assuring that all personnel in their charge (including Faculty, Staff, Postdocs, Visiting Research Scientists, Graduate Students, Hourly and/or Work Study Students, and Independent Study Students) have completed all necessary training requirements**.

Training requirements, **except for WPS and specialized training**, can be fulfilled by attending a **2-hour EH&S Laboratory & Fire Safety Training class**. The list of ongoing scheduled classes can be found at <http://www.ehs.umass.edu/train.html> . In addition, the **Department of Plant and Soil Sciences** tries to dedicate an early **Fall Semester 1.5 hour Departmental Seminars** for EH&S Safety training. **New employees and students who have never taken Safety Training** must attend either an EH&S **class** or the Departmental **seminars** to fulfill the requirements. **Anyone who has already taken a class/seminar at least one time** can complete **training and updates** either by repeating the class/seminars, or by using EH&S's online **OWL Training System**. **WPS Training can ONLY be completed using OWL**.

**Directions for using the OWL system can be found on the PSIS Insiders Information Safety Page**. Go to the "**Plant and Soils Sciences Safety Information and Forms**" section of this page. Here you will find information and instructions for OWL training, including those for WPS.

Training requirements for Departmental personnel have been approved by the Department Head. **To find out which trainings you are required to take, please follow the instructions to LOGON to the OWL system**. Here you can view your training assignments. **If you feel that you should not be required to take a specific training, ask your Supervisor to discuss it with the Department Head**. If the Department Head approves, your requirement for that specific training will be removed. To emphasize again, **Supervisors are responsible for assuring that all personnel in their charge have completed all necessary training requirements**.