

Laboratory Eyewashes at the University of Iowa

Beginning in 2018, research labs must test eyewashes within their lab space and those in public spaces (hallways, etc.) that may be used by the lab in case of emergency. Eyewashes must be tested monthly, at a minimum. The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) recommends testing weekly. Any eyewash installed on campus should meet the requirements of ANSI Z358.1-2014.

Documentation

Documentation must be kept detailing when eyewashes are tested. This documentation will be checked by EHS auditors beginning in 2019. Signature pages are available on the EHS website under Forms- Chemical Safety (<https://ehs.research.uiowa.edu/chemical-safety-forms>):

- Eyewash testing/flushing verification – monthly
- Eyewash testing/flushing verification – weekly (optional)

EYE WASH STATION FLUSH CHECK		
LOCATION: <u>EHS4 201B</u>	FREQUENCY: Monthly	
Eye Wash Procedure: Activate eyewash and allow flushing to ensure the station is operational and the water runs clear (water flow pressure must be sufficient to allow for unobstructed contact with eyes). Turn water off and recap eye spigots, as appropriate. Please report any failure or malfunction to Facilities Management staff.		
Month OF	DATE	INITIALS
January	1/8/18	JD
February	2/14/18	LWT (reported to FM)
March	3/2/18	REJ

Testing

To test a plumbed eyewash:

1. If needed, assemble supplies under and/or around the eyewash to capture any outflowing water.
 - a. Recommendations include an empty red biohazard tub, 5-gallon bucket, or large trash bag.
2. Activate the eyewash. The eyewash does not need to be turned on to full strength.
3. Allow the water to run long enough to ensure the flowing water is clear and free of debris.
4. Deactivate the eyewash. Collected water may be poured down a sink drain. Clean up any water that may have splattered or spilled onto the floor and/or wall.
5. If repairs are needed, submit a work request to the FM Work Control Center through FM@YourService (<http://fmservice.facilities.uiowa.edu/#/Home>).
6. Sign the testing record with your initials, or signature, and the date.

To test a non-plumbed, self-contained eyewash:

1. Visually inspect the unit.
2. If needed, replace or replenish the flushing fluid in the reservoir.
 - a. Flushing fluids, typically buffered saline solutions, have expiration dates. Replace the flushing fluid per the expiration date. If no expiration date is supplied by the manufacturer, replace at least yearly.
3. Sign the testing record with your initials, or signature, and the date.

Eyewash Types

Wall-Mounted

A plumbed eyewash that is mounted on the wall. The eyewash may or may not have a bowl. The eyewash may drain to the building plumbing or to the floor.



Floor-Mounted

A plumbed eyewash that is mounted from the floor; also known as a pedestal. The eyewash may drain to the building plumbing or to the floor.



Inspect the bottom of the eyewash to determine if the drain leads to the plumbing or the floor.

Deck-Mounted

Swing Arm

A plumbed eyewash that is mounted on a countertop, usually next to a sink. The eyewash remains over the countertop when not in use. For use, the eyewash swings over the sink basin and drains directly into the building plumbing through the sink drain.



Dual-Head Drench Hose

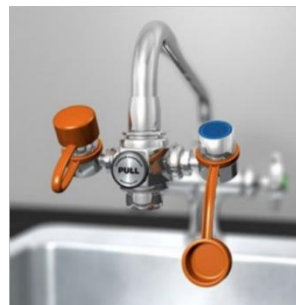
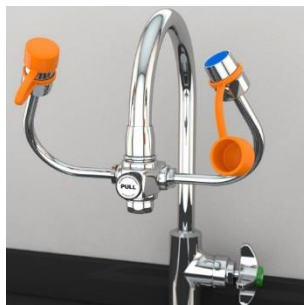
A plumbed eyewash that is mounted on a countertop, usually next to a sink. The handle is attached to a flexible hose below the countertop. The eyewash can be used in place or pulled out for closer use. If used over a sink, it drains directly into the building plumbing through the sink drain.



Faucet-Mounted

A plumbed eyewash that is mounted directly on a faucet. The eyewash drains directly into the building plumbing through the sink drain.

Note- Faucet-mounted eyewashes are often not temperature-controlled nor can be activated in one second or less. If it does not meet all eyewash performance and installation requirements then it is considered a supplemental device only.



Self-contained Station

A non-plumbed eyewash that has a reservoir of flushing fluid and uses gravity to feed that fluid to the eyewash heads. Usually mounted on a wall. Self-contained units must be able to provide 0.4 GPM tepid flushing fluid for 15 minutes to qualify as a OSHA-compliant eyewash.



Supplemental Personal Eyewash Types

The devices below are not OSHA-compliant eyewashes. They may only be used as supplemental units, aka personal eyewashes.

Deck-Mounted Single-Head Drench Hose

Like a dual-head drench hose, a plumbed device that is mounted on a countertop, usually next to a sink, and attached to a flexible hose below the countertop. If used over a sink, it drains directly into the building plumbing through the sink drain.



Squeeze Bottle

A plastic bottle usually filled with a buffered saline solution. Saline solutions expire and should be changed out according to the schedule recommended by the manufacturer. If tap water is used in a squeeze bottle, the water should be changed weekly.

