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| SOU Logo STEM Sustainability Procedures  |

**Office:**

**Procedure Contact:**

**Related Policy or Policies: FAD.026 Green Purchasing, FAD.032 Hazardous Waste Disposal, FAD.085 Environmental Health and Safety**

# Revision History

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| **Revision Number:** | **Change:** | **Date:** |
|  | Initial version | 01/06/2020 |
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## A. Purpose

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| To minimize the environmental impact of synthetic chemicals and materials used to conduct instruction and research in Southern Oregon University's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Division. |

## B. Definitions

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| Green chemistry is an approach in the chemical sciences that efficiently uses renewable raw materials, minimizes waste, and avoids use of toxic and hazardous reagents and solvents in the manufacture and application of chemical products. Although safety is the first priority, it is also important to consider environmental impact. Green chemistry serves to prevent waste, provides less hazardous synthetic processes, and utilizes inherently benign chemistry for accident prevention. |

## C. Procedures

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| By utilizing green chemistry to conduct instruction and research, synthetic chemicals and materials are eliminated or kept to a minimum. This is a cradle to grave process which involves receiving or mixing chemicals or materials, storage, experimentation, and disposal. This process includes: evaluating the experiments, research needs, and desired outcomes; minimizing quantities and hazards;, and ordering and storing only the needed quantities. Additionally, chemicals and materials needing recycling or disposal are minimized or eliminated. 1. The P.I. or Instructor will evaluate the research or experimental needs to minimize hazards and waste.
2. Ordering of chemicals and materials are minimized by tracking current stock levels and ordering only needed amounts.
3. Storage of chemicals in less than 25 gallon containers is limited due to the design of the Science Building Storage Rooms. Due to the microscale chemistry research and experiments, storage is limited to 5 gallon or less container sizes. (This is a bit confusing to me Russ because storage is limited to both 25 and 5 gallon containers?)
4. Recycling and/or disposal of expired and used chemicals or materials is minimized to lessen environmental impact. An emphasis is placed on recycling chemicals that have a flash point that can be fuel blended to minimize waste into the environment.
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| This procedure may be revised at any time without notice. All revisions supersede prior procedures and are effective immediately upon approval. |

## D. Appendix