

Sustainable Laboratories Webinar Q&A and further information



Training

Q: Is there training available, this could involve health and safety and sustainability, and could be replicated for all new staff and students

- Rabbab Oun @ Strathclyde University is working on creating a training programme. *We have requested further information on this and will let you know once we hear more.*

Notes: My Green Lab Ambassador program is a free of charge online program, you can find more details about this [here](#):

My Green Lab will also soon launch an Accredited Professional course which will give more in depth training on lab sustainability topics. They anticipate releasing the first modules in Q1 of 2021 with more release throughout 2021. Keep in touch via our newsletter and social media to find out more once it launches.

- <https://www.mygreenlab.org/newsletter.html>
- https://twitter.com/My_Green_Lab
- <https://www.linkedin.com/company/my-green-lab>
- <https://www.facebook.com/mygreenlab/>

Collaboration

- Join the **Laboratory Efficiency Action Network (LEAN)** forum if they want to share expertise / knowledge on UK Sustainable Science & Green Labs:
- Join the My Green Lab Procurement ACTivists group: For those in procurement and similar interested in being part of the ongoing evolution and sharing in best practice around our ECO nutrition label for sustainable lab procurement
- Become an My Green Lab Ambassador, taking part in monthly teams meetings and ongoing conversation to exchange practical green lab tips and hear from useful speakers.
- The Green Labs Planning Google Group can also be a useful resource

Programmes

- Lab Efficiency Assessment Framework (LEAF)
 - **Comment:** It's really helpful to see in numbers how much energy and waste you are using and how small changes help bring costs and carbon emissions down.
- My Green Labs Own Lab Certification program, these programmes consistently show real gains in furthering more sustainable science.

- **Comment:** success based on whether people are changing their behaviours in the way they work. Feedback of that our community find the certification extremely helpful in helping them to structure their lab sustainability activities and also learn about the different ways that they can approach green labs.
- Additionally, MGL will be including an impact estimator as part of the program which will look at area's including energy, water and waste.

Templates

Q: Is there an generic template that I can use as a indicator of the amount of plastics /lab material that we have recycled?

- The impact calculator that MGL will soon include as part of our lab certification program will includes some basic components in relation to this.
- EPA's WARM tool can be used to calculate emissions reduced as a result of waste aversion or recycling activities

Recycling Specific Items

Q: Does anyone have any useful information or links regarding nitrile glove recycling?

- Kimberley Clark manufacture the gloves in Malaysia, the carbon footprint of shipping them over seems to be ignored
- Medline also offer a glove recycling program in some countries. We are currently in the early stages of conversation to work more with Medline have already as part of this raised the question on the availability of this program in the UK.

Q: Are there any bio-based plastic goods existing already in the market for laboratories? (pipettes, tubes, petri dishes...)

- Labcon, are using some bio-based plastics

Q: Does anybody have any experience/knowledge of using glass lab equipment that can be cleaned and reused? I've been told that the Francis-Crick Institute uses it but I haven't been able to get in contact yet.

- **Comment:** Cancer Research Institute do this using the following equipment and process:
 - Appropriate washing machine: Sychem Lab 900
 - Detergent : Niphos
 - Final rinse from washing machine using RO water (water purification put in place Veolia)
 - 180C 3 hour heated for sterilisation
 - Foiled over before heated to maintain sterility whilst on glassware shelves

