

Green Lab Certification

Before You Begin

Thank you for your interest in the University of Washington's Green Lab Certification!

Before you begin the certification questionnaire, here are a few things to keep in mind:

1. You may pause and save your work at any time using the "Save and Continue" bar at the top of each page. After inputting your email address, you will receive a link which you can use later to access your unfinished questionnaire.
2. Use the in-questionnaire "Back" and "Next" buttons rather than your web browser's navigation buttons to avoid erasing any of your responses by accident.

Lab Information

1. Contact Information - Of the **best** person to contact about the certification application. *

First and Last Name

Title in Lab

Email Address

Phone Number

2. Lab Title *

Ex: Cherrier Lab, UW Instructional Biology Lab, etc.

3. Primary Principle Investigator *

First and Last Name

Email Address

4. Lab Location *

Ex: Gerberding Hall B40

5. Campus *

Ex: UW Seattle

6. Campus Mail Box Number *

Ex: Box 351248

7. Lab Subject Matter - Check all that apply. *

- Chemistry
- Engineering
- Geology
- Life Sciences
- Mathematics
- Other - Write In

8. Lab Department *

Ex: Pediatrics, Environmental Health, etc.

9. Lab Description - Write 1-2 sentences about what your lab investigates.

10. Total number of people who work in the lab *

11. Lab is composed primarily of...

- Faculty
- Staff
- Graduate students
- Undergraduate students
- Other - Write In

Communication and Education

Page description:

12. CE1. When a new member begins work at our lab, their orientation to our lab includes information regarding lab sustainability practices. - Turning off lights and unused electronics when they are not in use or when the last person leaves the lab, ordering supplies with neighboring labs to reduce waste from packaging, checking MyChem for chemicals before purchasing new ones, etc. [More examples of sustainable lab practices...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

13. CE2. Staff meetings or other means of communication include updates on sustainable lab practices when applicable. [Examples of sustainable lab practices...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

14. CE3. Our lab keeps communication lines open with our neighboring labs in order to combine orders and share resources, when possible. [Why combine orders?...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

LOGIC Hidden unless: #14 Question "CE3. Our lab keeps communication lines open with our neighboring labs in order to combine orders and share resources, when possible. [Why combine orders?...](#)" is one of the following answers ("Yes")

15. CE4. Please give an example of when and how you kept communication lines open with neighboring labs. *

Ex: We check with a neighboring lab for chemicals or reagents before we purchase new ones. We loan/borrow field equipment for graduate research projects to/from other labs.

16. CE5. At least one member of our lab is subscribed to the [Green Labs Newsletter](#) and is sharing information with other lab members. [Subscribe...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

17. CE6. At least 50% of our laboratory has taken the [UW Sustainability Pledge](#). *

- Yes
- No

18. CE7. Our administrative office is a member of the Green Office Program. [Participating offices...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Energy

Page description:

19. E.1 Our laboratory has determined and labeled the shutdown procedure of each electronic device (computers, monitors, heat plates, spinner plates, cell phone chargers, battery chargers, etc.). [Printable labels for shutdown...](#) *

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

20. E2. Our laboratory members unplug and/or turn off nonessential electronic devices (computers, monitors, heat plates, spinner plates, cell phone chargers, battery chargers, etc.) that may draw a charge when not in use. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

21. E3. The last person to leave our laboratory turns off the lights. [How to create reminders...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

22. E4. Our laboratory makes an effort to use only natural light from windows when possible in order to conserve electricity. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

23. E5. At least 3/4 of our laboratory computers have been optimized to use less energy. [How to optimize computers...](#) *

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

24. E6. Our laboratory has a refrigerator or freezer. *

- Both
 - Refrigerator only
 - Freezer only
 - Neither
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #24 Question "E6. Our laboratory has a refrigerator or freezer." is one of the following answers ("Both","Freezer only")

25. E7. We defrost and clean our freezer regularly. [Why and how to defrost and clean freezers...](#) *

- At least 1 time per year (or whenever the ice on the interior walls builds up to ¼ of an inch in thickness)
 - Less than 1 time per year
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #24 Question "E6. Our laboratory has a refrigerator or freezer." is one of the following answers ("Both","Freezer only")

26. E8. We have increased the temperature of our -80°C freezer to -70°C, a practice tested and proven by the University of Colorado system and UC Davis. [Why increase freezer temperature?...](#) *

- Yes
 - No
 - We can not change the temperature of our freezer
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #24 Question "E6. Our laboratory has a refrigerator or freezer." is one of the following answers ("Both","Refrigerator only","Freezer only")

27. E9. We clean the external components of our refrigerator and/or freezer, including coils, filters, and motors, regularly. [Why clean external components?...](#) *

- At least 1 time per year
 - Less than 1 time per year
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #24 Question "E6. Our laboratory has a refrigerator or freezer." is one of the following answers ("Both","Refrigerator only","Freezer only")

28. E10. We have set our **non-lab-grade** refrigerator/freezer to the "energy saving" setting OR we plan to purchase a refrigerator/freezer that has this setting or is [Energy Star rated](#) when we replace our current refrigerator/freezer one.

*

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

29. E11. We always store DNA at -70°C, a practice [found to preserve](#) DNA as well as storing at -80°C does.

*

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

30. E12. Our lab has a fume hood. - All fume hoods come with a sticker that specifies the [flow type](#). *

- Yes - we have constant flow fume hoods
 - Yes - we have variable flow fume hoods
 - Yes - we have BOTH constant flow and variable flow fume hoods
 - No - our lab does not have fume hoods or does not use fume hoods
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #30 Question "E12. Our lab has a fume hood. - All fume hoods come with a sticker that specifies the [flow type](#)." is one of the following answers ("Yes - we have constant flow fume hoods", "Yes - we have variable flow fume hoods", "Yes - we have BOTH constant flow and variable flow fume hoods")

31. E13. Lab members who use, maintain, or plan experiments for the fume hood have taken the EH&S Fume Hood [online training](#) course. *

- Yes
 - No
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #30 Question "E12. Our lab has a fume hood. - All fume hoods come with a sticker that specifies the [flow type](#)." is one of the following answers ("Yes - we have variable flow fume hoods", "Yes - we have BOTH constant flow and variable flow fume hoods")

32. E14. We keep fume hood sashes closed when they are **not** in use and low when they **are** in use in order to save energy. [Just how much energy do fume hoods use?... *](#)

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
-

Recycling, Compost and Waste Reduction

33.

R1. Our laboratory reuses or recycles mailing envelopes, boxes and packaging material. [Recommended method...](#)

*

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

34. R2. Our laboratory has reduced unwanted mail by removing our name from all unnecessary/unhelpful mailing lists and/or sharing periodicals and other mailings between members. [How to reduce mail received and mailing costs... *](#)

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

35. R3. Our laboratory has replaced this amount of printed laboratory catalogues by requesting electronic versions of those catalogues, or shopping purely online. [How to change subscription to electronic one... *](#)

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

36. R4. Our laboratory orders frequently used items in bulk, consolidates orders and/or combines orders with other labs when possible. [How to consolidate orders and order in bulk... *](#)

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

37. R5. Our laboratory orders items that have reduced, recycled, or reusable packaging options when possible. [Asking vendors about packaging options...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

38. R6. Our laboratory reuses and recycles paper. [Order a recycling bin...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

39. R7. Our laboratory reuses and recycles plastic and glass containers. Please note that reagent bottles can be reused, but NOT recycled, at the University of Washington. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

40. R8. Our laboratory reuses and/or recycles boxes, Styrofoam/polystyrene blocks, and packing peanuts. [How to recycle clean, unlabeled Styrofoam/polystyrene and packing peanuts...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

41. R9. Our laboratory recycles printer/copier cartridges and components. [How to recycle cartridges and components...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

42. R10. Our laboratory recycles plastic film. [How to recycle plastic film...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

43. R11. Our laboratory recycles eMedia at our nearest eMedia bin. [Where and how to recycle eMedia...](#) eMedia includes disks, zip disks, CDs, DVDs, audiotapes, videotapes, and audio/videotape cases. Electronics such as computers are NOT eMedia and must be transferred to [UW Surplus](#). [Confidential eMedia](#) destruction must be coordinated within your department. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

44. R12. Our lab returns empty gas cylinders (including lecture bottles) to our vendor, or recycles them as scrap metal through UW Recycling. [How to recycle gas cylinders...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

45. R13. Our laboratory has worked with UW Recycling to install compost collection containers and signage for paper towel composting. Contact UW Recycling at recycle@uw.edu...

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

46. R14. Our lab properly disposes of all lamps and burnt bulbs through EH&S or Facilities. [How to dispose of lamps and burnt bulbs...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

47. R15. Our lab inventories our supplies and consumable materials prior to purchasing new materials.

[Recommended practices...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

48. R16. Our lab shares chemicals or consumable materials with other labs to help with inventory control. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

49. R17. Our laboratory posts non-expired surplus chemicals for exchange on [MyChem](#). *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

50. R18. Our laboratory checks MyChem Chemical Exchange before purchasing new chemicals. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

51. R19. Our laboratory composts food waste, plant waste and compostable materials. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

Chemical Use and Disposal

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

52. C1. Our laboratory uses chemicals. *

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #52 Question "C1. Our laboratory uses chemicals." is one of the following answers ("Yes")

53. C2. Labs that use hazardous chemicals: All laboratory members have taken the required online ["Managing Lab Chemicals" class](#) provided by EH&S. *

- At least 75% of applicable people have taken the class
 - Less than 75% of the applicable people have taken the class
 - Not applicable
-

LOGIC Hidden unless: #52 Question "C1. Our laboratory uses chemicals." is one of the following answers ("Yes")

54. C3. Our laboratory properly disposes of waste chemicals by utilizing the [EH&S Chemical Collection request form](#) or following EH&S guidelines for treatment prior to disposing down the drain. How to... *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the tim
 - Not applicable
-

55. C4. Our laboratory has exchanged all of our mercury thermometers for non-mercury thermometers through the free EH&S ["Mercury Thermometer Swap Program."](#) *

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

56. C5. Our lab members know which chemicals are the most hazardous in our lab processes and have taken steps to reduce the amount of hazardous chemicals used and disposed of. [How to reduce use of hazardous chemicals...](#) *

- Yes
 - No
 - Not applicable
-

57. C6. Containers of volatile organic compounds ([VOCs](#)), including chemical waste containers, are capped when not in use. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

58. C7. Our laboratory uses less toxic, water-based cleaners and degreasers when they are available. [Request green cleaning products...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

59. C8. Our laboratory uses a [solvent selection guide](#) with health and safety criteria to select solvents, helping to minimize the use of hazardous solvents. *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

60. C9. This amount of the xylene our laboratory uses is high-grade recycled xylene, which is available for purchase from EH&S. *

- At least 75%
 - Less than 75%
 - Not applicable
-

61. C10. Our laboratory uses LED microscope lighting versus standard mercury microscope bulbs. [Why not use mercury bulbs?...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Purchasing

Page description:

62. P1. Our laboratory utilizes UW's sustainable [purchasing resources](#) to make more sustainable purchasing decisions. *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

63. P2. Our laboratory has looked into and seriously considered purchasing [energy efficient laboratory equipment](#), or equipment that has an energy-saving feature. *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

64. P3. Our laboratory purchases products manufactured from recycled materials when possible. [Where to find recycled materials...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

65. P4. Our laboratory always purchases 100% recycled paper, as required by Washington state law. *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

66. P5. Our laboratory purchases products that are reusable as opposed to single-use disposable items when possible in order to reduce waste. [Examples of reusable lab items...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

67. P6. Our laboratory considers taking inventory of and consolidating samples before purchasing a new freezer or refrigerator. [Setting up an inventory schedule...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Work-Related Travel and Field Work

Page description:

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

68. F1. When traveling locally (Greater Seattle Area) or within the Pacific Northwest (WA, OR, ID, MT, BC, etc.) our laboratory chooses a more sustainable option, or purchases carbon offsets. [Sustainable Travel Tips...](#)

(More sustainable options include: foot, hybrid UCar, bike, train, carpooling, public or UW transit, etc. Driving alone and flying without purchasing carbon offsets are NOT sustainable travel methods.) *

- At least 75% of the time
- Less than 75% of the time
- Not applicable

LOGIC Hidden unless: #68 Question "F1. When traveling locally (Greater Seattle Area) or within the Pacific Northwest (WA, OR, ID, MT, BC, etc.) our laboratory chooses a more sustainable option, or purchases carbon offsets. [Sustainable Travel Tips...](#)

(More sustainable options include: foot, hybrid UCar, bike, train, carpooling, public or UW transit, etc. Driving alone and flying without purchasing carbon offsets are NOT sustainable travel methods.)" is one of the following answers ("At least 75% of the time", "Less than 75% of the time")

69. F2. Select all sustainable travel options your lab uses when traveling locally or regionally. *

- Hybrid UCar
- Carpooling
- Public or UW Transit (King County Metro, Health Sciences Shuttle)
- Bike
- Foot
- Train
- Other - Write In

- Not applicable
-

70. F3. Our laboratory attempts to [consolidate trips](#) when traveling.

(An example of this would be traveling to the South Lake Union building for a meeting, and picking up samples while you are there, as to avoid two trips) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

71. F4. Our laboratory uses videoconferencing or teleconferencing tools to conduct meetings, rather than traveling long distances. [Video and teleconferencing tools...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

72. F5. Our laboratory maintains a strict [Pack-In, Pack-Out](#) policy when doing field work. [Other ways to reduce field work's environmental impact...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
 - Less than 75% of the time
 - Not applicable
-

Water Conservation

Page description:

73. W1. Our laboratory members immediately [report water leaks](#) to Facilities Services when noticed. *

- At least 75% of the time
- Less than 75% of the time
- Not applicable

74. W2. Our laboratory runs our dishwashers/autoclaves only when they are full. [Other ways to reduce autoclave water use...](#) *

- At least 75% of the time
- Less than 75% of the time
- Not applicable

75. W3. All of our laboratory faucets are fitted with aerators or water misers to reduce water flow. [Why use aerators & water misers?...](#) *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

Innovations

Page description:

LOGIC Show/hide trigger exists.

76. I1. Does your lab perform any sustainable practices that were not covered by the application? *

- Yes
- No

LOGIC Hidden unless: #76 Question "I1. Does your lab perform any sustainable practices that were not covered by the application?" is one of the following answers ("Yes")

77. I2. List the innovations your lab performs.


