



Lab Sustainability Best Practices Audit

Principal Investigator:

MSU email:

Lab Manager or Point of Contact:

Lab building and room number(s):

Place an X in the YES or NO column. If the question does not apply use N/A

Appliances	YES	NO
Energy Star -80 freezer		
Energy Star -20 freezer		
Energy Star refrigerator		
Energy Star incubator		
Energy and Water Conservation Practices		
Use screen savers		
Use outlet timers		
Power strips installed for central turn off points		
Automatic/sensor lights		
Turn off equipment when not in use		
Always shut the door of the autoclave after use to trap in steam and heat		
Do not let PCR products sit in the 4-degree hold		
Consult an inventory or examine available materials before ordering new products		
Attempt to redistribute unopened or uncontaminated materials to other labs before discarding		
Share machines with other labs before purchasing your own		
Switch to reusable glass containers and materials when		
Plan small-scale pre experiments to optimize resource use in the main experiment		
Use tap water rather than deionized water		

Maintain equipment according to manufacturer instructions to optimize performance and efficiency. For example, freezer coils need to be cleaned/dusted 2-3 times per year to decrease energy consumption and increase longevity.		
Use cleaning equipment only when full (dishwashers, autoclaves, etc.).		
Lower the sash on fume hoods and turn off biosafety cabinets when not in use, and install “shut the sash” stickers on all fume hoods.		
Post signage encouraging energy saving throughout the laboratory.		
Report any water leaks in pipes or sinks to Facility Services.		
Use materials that can be stored at room temperature in place of materials that need to be in cold storage		
Faucet aerators installed to reduce water waste		
Recycling Waste Reduction		
Print on double sided of paper		
Use rechargeable batteries		
Donate unused equipment to MSU Surplus to be reused or recycled properly		
Make recycling bins available to the laboratory and ensure nonhazardous, clean materials are recycled.		
Offer redundant or non-used equipment for re-use by another lab or recycle.		
Reuse envelopes, boxes, and packaging materials whenever possible.		
Cold Storage		
Keep cooling equipment full for maximum energy efficiency		
Turn up freezers (-80 to -70)		
Schedule a de-icing or defrosting 1-2 times a year		
Scrape freezer gaskets monthly to ensure proper seal		
Share freezer space with another lab if possible		
Defrost freezers annually for maximum energy efficiency.		
Inventory refrigerator and freezer contents to minimize the time the door is open while accessing materials.		