



## UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SUSTAINABLE CHANGE PROGRAM GUIDANCE

# LABS

## UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a collection of 17 global goals designed to be a "blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all". The SDGs were set up in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and are intended to be achieved by the year 2030. Learn about the SDGs, and incorporate them into your office here: [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/)

## EXTERNAL RESOURCES

Terracycle Glove recycling program: [TerraCycle](https://www.terracycle.com/)

UofT EHS Website: <https://ehs.utoronto.ca/>

Lab procurement tips:

<https://www.labmanager.com/business-management/tips-and-resources-for-maximizing-your-lab-spend-2191>

## BEST PRACTICES

- Conduct freezer cleanouts annually to avoid overcrowding.
- Ensure the freezer has enough ventilation space, and clean dust off the coils at the back.
- Adjust the setting of the freezers from -80C to -70C, if -80C conditions are not needed.
- Sharing cold rooms offers better energy performance, back-up emergency power, heat recovery, and more efficient use of space.
- Fume hood sash is shut when not in use to contain substances.
- Request for unneeded or unused fume hoods to be hibernated.
- Utilize multi-outlet strips in workspaces to reduce miscellaneous plug loads.
- Disconnect unused equipment to reduce electrical plug load.
- Use timers on equipment so that they automatically turn off when not in use.
- Immediately report leaky faucets to building maintenance.
- Only run dishwashers at full capacity.
- Use glassware instead of plasticware.
- Purchase from vendors that reduce their packaging or use more sustainable packaging.
- Create inventory management checklists to avoid spoilage or over purchasing.
- Collaborate with other labs to share resources such as unused equipment, reagents/chemicals, or consumables.
- Prioritize the prevention of chemical waste.