

# LAB SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

## Personal Protective Equipment and General Lab Attire



**Personal protective equipment (PPE) helps to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious workplace injuries and illnesses.**

**These injuries and illnesses may result from contact with chemical, biological, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards.**

- Standard clothing for most laboratories includes close-toed shoes and proper shirts/pants. A risk assessment for each lab will determine the required PPE.
- Chemical splash goggles or face shields should be worn when there is a risk of splashing hazardous materials. Safety glasses with side shields protect the eyes against flying particles.
- If respirators are to be used for protection against airborne contaminants, equipment listed and approved by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) may be used if properly selected and fit-tested as part of a complete respiratory protection program.
- Any laboratory operation that exposes laboratory personnel to a short-term high decibel noise source or any noise of 85 decibels or greater for an 8-hour average duration should utilize hearing protection in the form of plugs or muffs.