In response to recent events occurring in Federal research laboratories (CDC and NIH), the NIH issued a notice announcing a new biosafety stewardship initiative and designated September as National Biosafety Stewardship Month. Institutions that receive government research funding are encouraged to participate; conduct training, review procedures, evaluate safety culture and focus on enhancing safety for all research personnel.

The University of Pennsylvania will participate. As part of complying with the Stewardship Initiative the Penn designates September as Lab Safety Stewardship Month.

As part of this initiative the University requires the following:

**Mandatory Inventory of Biological Agents in Laboratory Freezers and Refrigerators**

*REQUIRED for all laboratories by September 30, 2014*

Each PI must undertake a review of all biological agents in his/her laboratory including contents of ALL freezers and refrigerators, in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Maintain or develop an up-to-date inventory of biological agents
- Dispose of all old, unwanted, unnecessary and unlabeled materials in accordance with the university biohazardous waste policy
- Register biological materials used in laboratories utilizing BioRAFT Biotab

Reminder: Wear appropriate PPE during clean out! This includes lab coat, safety glasses, and gloves. Use of cryogenic gloves may be required.

Find more information at www.ehrs.upenn.edu