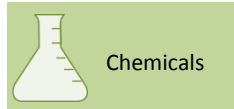
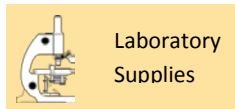


# UIC Green Labs Challenge

By participating in the Green Labs Challenge your laboratory is making a valuable contribution not only to helping UIC become a more sustainable university, but also to creating a healthier environment for yourself and your communities. You may also choose to participate in the UIC Green Office Challenge, and up your “green score”. You will be competing against other labs in your department and will be scored during the EHSO Safety Inspection. May the greenest lab win!

## The Green Labs Challenge Focus Areas:



## How to use this form:

The Green Labs Challenge is organized as a checklist. Each Focus Area has a series of initiatives that earn points. As you complete more initiatives, you gain more points and can achieve greater Green Levels. Of course, some initiatives may not apply to your lab. Don't worry, it won't count against you. You can see the total possible points your lab can earn at the bottom of each initiative. Your points will be tallied during the Safety Inspection.

An example of an initiative from the 'Chemicals' focus area:

*Chemicals*



This lab does not use any mercury thermometers.

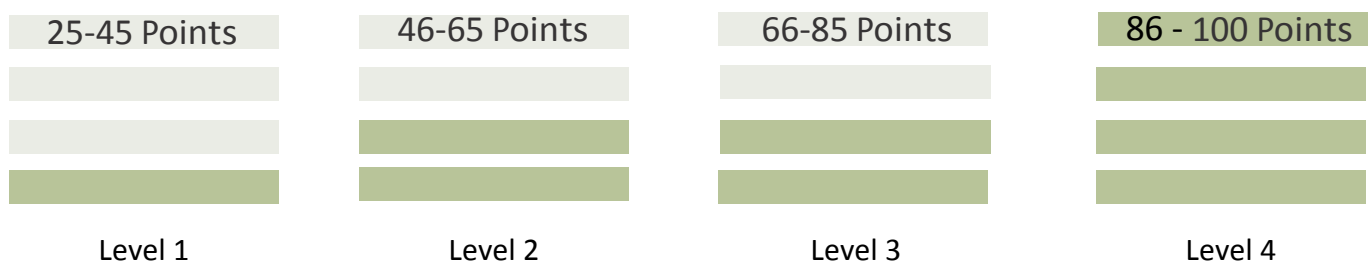
Points Earned

1

of 1

## Levels of Achievement

As your lab accumulates points, it can potentially place within 1 of 4 levels of green achievement:





## Energy Management

- All workstations have power strips that are easily accessible and are switched off each night. Smart Strips, which automatically turn off when not in use, will make this task easier. 2 points
- This lab has established a written Energy Star replacement plan, ensuring that any old appliances, equipment or electronics are replaced with Energy Star certified models. 2 points
- Computers are turned off at night. (May not apply if computers are automatically backed up at night.) Using a power strip will make this task easier. 3 points
- Electronic equipment is turned off when not in use. If possible, these appliances are unplugged to reduce unnecessary phantom loads. [Click here for more information.](#) 4 points
- Computers are set to hibernate after 15 minutes of inactivity and screen savers are never used, since they prevent the computer from going to sleep. 4 points
- All lights are turned off when not in use. This includes common areas like conference rooms and break rooms. Light switches have 'Please turn it OFF' stickers attached. 4 points
- Fume Hood sashes are set to appropriate height and nothing is stored inside fume hood to block air flow. 3 points
- This lab annually audits refrigerators and freezers in order to discard old and unneeded items such as chemicals, solutions, or biological samples. 4 points
- This lab turns off the biosafety cabinet when not in use and turns off UV lights after 1 hour. 4 points

Total Possible Points 30



## Laboratory Supplies

- |                          |   |          |
|--------------------------|---|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab reuses and shares Styrofoam shipping containers for storage of temporary temperature-sensitive items.  | 2 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab has signed up for the Chemical, Equipment and Labware Sharing Program at <a href="http://www.ohsowe.com/local/groups/LabShare">http://www.ohsowe.com/local/groups/LabShare</a><br><a href="#">Sign up here</a> | 4 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab maintains an inventory of all supplies and checks the inventory before ordering new supplies.  | 3 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab purchases lab supplies with a “sustainable” or “green” icon indicator whenever possible. Check <a href="#">VWR</a> or <a href="#">Fisher Scientific</a> , for example.   | 3 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab utilizes a vendor take-back program for materials like packaging materials and out-dated equipment.  | 4 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab uses glass or other reusable materials (such as weigh boats) in lieu of disposable plastic materials whenever applicable.  | 4 points |
| Total Possible Points    |   | 20       |



## Chemicals

- |                          |  |          |
|--------------------------|--|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab does not accept damaged goods, including solid chemicals and solvents.  | 2 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab utilizes Chemical Redistribution Program to reuse chemicals before ordering new chemicals.<br>Visit the Research Resource Center in E102 MSB, 835 S. Wolcott or visit <a href="http://store.rrc.uic.edu/EHSO">http://store.rrc.uic.edu/EHSO</a> | 3 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab has an up-to-date chemical inventory which includes the following:<br>[Chemical Name   Manufacturer   CAS Number   No. of Containers   Quantity and Unit (e.g. 500 ml)   Building Number   Lab Number]  | 4 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab has donated all unused chemicals to Chemical Redistribution Program or to neighbors.<br><a href="#">email EHSO to donate chemicals</a>  | 3 points |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | This lab does not use any mercury thermometers and has requested chemical waste pick up from EHSO for any remaining mercury thermometers. <a href="#">Click here to download a chemical waste removal form</a>   | 2 points |

<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab has substituted any applicable hazardous chemicals or process with non-hazardous chemicals. <a href="http://ehs.mit.edu/greenchem/">http://ehs.mit.edu/greenchem/</a>	4 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab purchases chemicals in the smallest sizes possible, instead of in bulk, so that the chemicals do not expire and are not wasted.	2 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab keeps chemical waste containers closed to prevent leaks and spills.	2 points
	Total Possible Points	22



## Waste Reduction & Recycling

<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab recycles all paper, bottles, and cans in the proper UIC recycling bins.	1 point
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab has removed names from vendor catalog mailing lists and instead searches for products online.	2 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab neutralizes all eligible corrosives, formaldehyde, and ethidium bromide instead of disposing as hazardous waste. <a href="#">Contact EHSO for information regarding neutralization</a>	4 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab utilizes UIC's Solvent Recycling Program. <a href="#">Contact EHSO for information regarding Solvent Recycling</a>	6 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab segregates waste (such as halogenated solvents from non-halogenated solvents) in order to reduce energy used to safely dispose the chemical.	3 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab disposes of sharps and biohazardous waste only when 2/3 full.	2 points
<input type="checkbox"/>	This lab recycles all pipette tip boxes in the proper "Pipette Tip Box" recycling containers.	2 points
	Total Possible Points	20

## Networking & Engagement

- The Green Labs Challenge poster is posted in a visible place. 1 point  
*poster available through EHSO*
  - This lab has had least one member signed up to be on the Green Labs Committee. 4 points  
[Click here to sign up!](#)
  - This office has come up with at least ONE innovative way to manage energy, reduce waste, increase recycling, or be more 'green' that is not already outlined in these checklists. 3 points  
[Tell us what your lab has done!](#)
- Total Possible Points 8

### Points Breakdown by Focus Area

- Energy Management  of 30 possible points
- Laboratory Supplies  of 20 possible points
- Chemicals  of 22 possible points
- Waste Reduction & Recycling  of 20 possible points
- Networking & Engagement  of 8 possible points

Total Points

*Where do you rank?*

