Chemical Management Services
by Carol Sneyd, Regional Safety Technician

Dr. Kenneth Freeston, Superintendent of North Salem UFSD reminds us all that "schools need annual reviews of the presence of chemicals in classroom and storage closets. Accumulated chemicals, purchased in some cases years ago, can present an unintended hazard to staff and students. Having an onsite expert conduct an inventory, oversee removal and establish protocols for the purchasing and storage of chemicals going forward provides us needed assurance of safe practices."

Do you have old, expired, dangerous or unused chemicals in your store rooms? We can help.

In recent months, Regional Safety Technician Carol Sneyd has assisted several districts in identifying and inventorying materials that were no longer of use, old or just plain dangerous for school labs. As time passes, our understanding of the safety of chemicals changes and evolves as do the requirements of the curriculum. Many times this leaves storage closets and shelves overflowing and schools don't know where to turn.

If your storage closets are beginning to have...
suspicious activity?

Have they been trained in basic playground safety?

Our monitor and aide training will answer these and many other questions.

Let us train your staff and inspect your playground equipment.

To schedule:

Contact Michael Sellet, Regional Safety Coordinator

914-248-2457
msellet@pnwboces.org

In addition to working with the science chemicals, our department also can advise you on the safe storage of cleaning products within your janitorial rooms, custodial closets, and out buildings.

Contact Carol Sneyd, regional safety technician, for more information and to schedule an appointment.
csneyd@pnwboces.org

For information from the New York State DEC:
click here

March is Ladder Safety Month
from the OSHA webpage
Ladder safety is the focus of OSHA's National Outreach campaign. Falls from ladders are preventable, and yet they account for about 20,000 injuries and 300 deaths each year. The event is organized in conjunction with the American Ladder Institute's declaration of March as Ladder Safety Month.

Reducing Falls in Construction: Safe Use of Stepladders

Workers who use ladders in construction risk permanent injury or death from falls and electrocutions. These hazards can be eliminated or substantially reduced by following good safety practices. OSHA's requirements for stepladders are in Subpart X-Stairways and Ladders of OSHA's Construction standards.

What is a Stepladder?

A stepladder is a portable, self-supporting, A-frame ladder. It has two front side rails and two rear side rails. Generally, there are steps mounted between the front side rails and bracing between the rear side rails.

PLAN Ahead to Get the Job Done Safely

A competent person must visually inspect stepladders for visible defects on a periodic basis and after any occurrence that could affect their safe use. Defects include, but are not limited to:

- Structural damage, split/bent side rails, broken or missing rungs/steps/cleats and missing or damaged safety devices.
- Grease, dirt or other contaminants that could cause slips or falls.
- Paint or stickers (except warning or safety labels) that could hide possible defects.

Provide the Right Stepladder for the Job with the Proper Load Capacity

Use a ladder that can sustain at least four times the maximum intended load, except that each extra-heavy duty type 1A metal or plastic ladder shall sustain at least 3.3 times the maximum intended load. Also acceptable are ladders that meet the
requirements set forth in Appendix A of Subpart X. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions and labels on the ladder. To determine the correct ladder, consider your weight plus the weight of your load. Do not exceed the load rating and always include the weight of all tools, materials and equipment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Duty Rating</th>
<th>Use</th>
<th>Load</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1AA</td>
<td>Special Duty</td>
<td>Rugged</td>
<td>375 lbs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1A</td>
<td>Extra Heavy Duty</td>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>300 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>III</td>
<td>Light Duty</td>
<td>Household</td>
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Lunch and Learn

On March 9, 2017, Regional Safety Services hosted a Lunch and Learn with Anonymous Alerts. Our speakers were T. Gregory Bender, founder and CEO of Anonymous Alerts, and Fred Lane.

Mr. Lane is a nationally recognized expert on cyber safety and privacy. Mr. Lane presented the topic "Cybertraps for Educators". He discussed pitfalls of the digital age including the blurring of teacher-student boundaries. With cell phones, there is no longer a parent on the other end of the phone cord. Calls have become innately more private and intimate. Even innocent calls can move into the inappropriate very easily. He recommends having communications protocols that define the times and means of student contact.

Mr. Bender presented "Bullying and School Safety Trends and Anonymous Reporting Statistics". Mr. Bender gave us some startling statistics to show why anonymous and digital reporting applications, such as Anonymous Alerts, can be critical in managing negative behaviors in schools.