

THE FACTS



Photographic Darkrooms

A **photographic darkroom** is used to process photographic film, make prints, and carry out other associated tasks.

Hazards:

- Many dark room chemicals give off hazardous vapors.
- Other solutions produce potentially harmful gases such as formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde, hydroquinone, ammonia, sulfur dioxide and hydrogen sulfide.
- Some ingredients are corrosive.
- Improper ventilation can lead to overexposure of harmful chemicals.



Safety:

- Ensure proper ventilation is available (there should be at least 10 air changes per hour or 170 cfm for darkrooms)
- Provide and review safety data sheets for all chemicals used in the dark room.
- Never eat, drink, or smoke in the dark room and always wash your hands before doing these activities.
- Do not store chemicals in commonly used beverage containers.
- Wear eye protection and gloves whenever working with chemicals.
- Provide spill kits in the dark room where chemicals containing corrosives, organic solvents, or formaldehyde are used.

Occupational and Environmental Safety (OES) is a team of dedicated professionals who provide safety and compliance services to support Clemson University's core mission of research, teaching and public service. We accomplish this through collaboration and partnerships with the Clemson community and are committed to continuous improvement and exceptional customer service.

For more information on OES website: <https://www.clemson.edu/finops/oes/index.html>