PRISM Cleanroom
Hot Plate Safety

Hot plates must be used properly to prevent *burns and fires*, so:

- Hot plates must be used within a fume hood if potentially hazardous vapors are generated
- Use caution, hot plate could still be hot from a previous user
- Before using hot plate always inspect the wiring for damage and keep all electrical cords away from the heating surface
- Check for corrosion on the parts and do not use hot plate if corroded or damaged
- Keep rubber, plastic (e.g.: plastic tweezers, containers) and similar materials away from surface of the hot plate
- Use only heat-resistant, e.g. borosilicate glassware
- Inspect the glassware for cracks visible to the naked eye
- Do not exceed flash point of the flammable materials being heated
- Do not overheat chemical reactions
- Do not to spill any solution on a hot plate; without a hermetic seal liquid can contact electronics in plate, short it out and cause failures to heating element
- Use a watch glass to prevent evaporation loss of chemicals
- Make sure the surface of the hot plate is larger than the object being heated
- Label unattended hot plate during business hours (see picture above)
- Unattended use of hot plates after regular business hours is not allowed in the PRISM Cleanroom
- Turn the hot plate power to “off” when finished heating solution