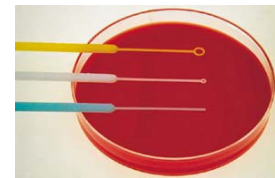


NOTICE TO RESEARCHERS

This is to notify the research community that NCRC does not have natural gas available on-site; therefore, there will be no use of conventional Bunsen burners in Class II Biological Safety Cabinets (BSC) at NCRC. The BSC are used for microbiological containment and/or aseptic work with tissue cultures. The continuous operation of traditional gas burners in a BSC creates thermodynamic instabilities that interfere with the function of the unit, reducing its ability to provide the sterile field necessary to protect the vulnerable research materials within. Flame sterilization of metal inoculation loops and other traditionally reusable materials is no longer necessary. Alternatives presently available include:

- The predominance of disposable loops, pipettes, and other transfer supplies has enhanced the ability of researchers to perform the repetitive inoculation tasks of microbiology and tissue culture maintenance:

[Disposable Inoculating Loops](#)



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- If metal loops are a must for your inoculations, infrared heat sterilizers are available to get the job done without flame or a great deal of BTU's.

[Bacti-Cinerator* IV Sterilizer](#)

[Argos* Nova Microcinerator](#)



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- If you feel that flaming metal inoculation loops is your best traditional solution, use a proximity sensor or foot-pedal activated burner that only operates for the few seconds it takes to sterilize a loop.

[Fireboy Safety Burner](#)



Contact OSEH at **763-6973** with any questions you may have about use of open flame in research laboratories or use of Class II Biological Safety Cabinets.
