

### lecture assignment #3

This assignment is due no later than 1:30 p.m. on Friday, 25 October. Reply by e-mail (101#3 Your Name) or word process (hand written will not be graded!!) and turn in to Dr. Christianson. 12 points

Go to the Biology 101 home page (<http://webpages.sou.edu/~rchristi/courses/genbi/Bi101.html>), scroll to the bottom, and click on the image for DHMO.org. According to its website, DHMO.org was started in order to raise public awareness of the *perceived* dangers of dihydrogen monoxide (DHMO), a chemical that is ubiquitous in the environment and, for the most part, unregulated as to use. Part of the welcome message on the web site states, "The controversy [N.B.: click the link and it becomes an EPA conspiracy] surrounding dihydrogen monoxide has never been more widely debated, and the goal of this site is to provide an unbiased data clearinghouse and a forum for public discussion."

1. According to the website, what are least three *different kinds of impacts* of DHMO on the environment (Enviro Impact of DHMO)?
2. According to the website, what is thought to be the causative link between DHMO and Cancer? Is DHMO thought to be a carcinogen (a substance that causes cancer)?
3. DHMO.org displays several what they call research reports. What kind of research does DHMO.org report?
4. On the right side of the web page is a listing of "DHMO Related Info." Visit at least three of the following links and using the search engine provided by each organization, report what each organization has to say *specifically about DHMO or the DHMO controversy* raised on the DHMO.org website.
  - NIH National Toxicology Program
  - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  - National Cancer Institute
  - Sierra Club
  - Greenpeace
5. What is the most likely reason the links identified above in question 4 are included on the DHMO.org website?
6. Think carefully! Of what is dihydrogen monoxide composed?
7. Rather than DHMO, what would most people call DHMO?
8. What do you think is the value of web sites such as this one?