



Laser Pointers

Technology has given us a wonderful tool in those little laser pointers used to highlight presentations, however caution is required when using them.

Many of the pointers sold today are of such intensity and wavelength that you can actually damage your eyes if you look into the beam, if even for a short period of time.

Avoid using the pointers in such a way that you might shine the beam into anyone's eyes. Damage occurs when the eye's blink reflex cannot react quick enough to block the incoming light.

The bottom line is that these little gadgets can be damaging if used improperly.

In addition, some states deem it illegal to even **direct** a laser beam at another person, regardless of your intent or what body part is illuminated.

OHSU's Laser Safety Officer (503 494-7795) can provide greater details.

