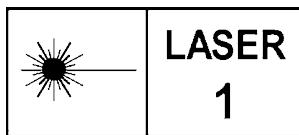


Ban of dangerous laser pointers

The Swiss Federal Council implemented a ban for laser pointers effective from 1 June 2019. Aim of the ban is to avoid injuries and dangerous glares due to laser beams. As of 1 June 2019, possession as well as import or transit of dangerous laser pointers is forbidden in Switzerland. This also applies to the distribution of such laser pointers whether for sale or free of charge.

What does that mean for ETH? From 1 June 2019, laser pointers of the classes 1M, 2M, 3R, 3B or 4 as well as non-labelled laser pointers must not be used anymore. Excluded are laser pointers of class 2, which may still be used indoors until 1 June 2021. You can return all forbidden laser pointers at the hazardous waste disposal facilities of ETH (in the center: CNB building, at Höggerberg: HCI and HPL buildings). Alternatively, you can send them in per mail; you'll find the address below. For the disposal of dangerous laser pointers, you have time until 1 June 2020. Until then, dispose of laser pointers of the classes 1M, 2M, 3R, 3B or 4, non-labelled laser pointers, laser pointers with no longer legible labelling as well as laser pointers labelled differently, e.g. laser class 3A, IIIA, 1C. Laser pointers of class 2 can be disposed of until 1 June 2021.

Non-dangerous laser pointers, those labelled class 1, can still be used after 1 June 2019:



ETH's office supplies shop (ETHIS-webshop) provides a spotlight pointer (Logitech Spotlight 5192985) as of 1 June 2019.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions: SGU-sonderabfall@ethz.ch.

You can find further information on laser pointers on the [Website](#) → of the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH).

Safety, Security, Health and Environment (SSHE)

Operational Environmental & Radiation Protection section

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