

The SAFETY BEAK



Department of
Occupational
Health and
Safety

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Preparing for National Campus Fire Safety Month

A campus fire safety summit was held in Washington in May 2005 to introduce legislation to designate September as National Campus Fire Safety month. While fire safety is addressed each year in campus residence halls, attention should be given to fire safety in other living accommodations used by the campus community.

Residence Halls and University owned multi-family rental homes are maintained in strict accordance with appropriate fire and building codes and ordinances. In other words, the University ensures that all of the proper fire preventive

measures have been taken and equipment is maintained for your safety. Residents also have at their disposal the ability to call in repair orders on a 24/7 basis. But what if you live in one of the many off-campus residences? Do you know what to look for as far as fire safety?

The following is a brief checklist that you may use to pre-inspect your off campus residence. All of the items may not be applicable in all cases.

EXITS

* All levels should have at least one readily accessible exit.

* Make sure you have an exit plan posted and prac-

tice it regularly.

DETECTION SYSTEMS

* Each floor should have a working smoke detector and replace batteries every 6 months.

* Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed if applicable.

* All detectors should be tested in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

EMERGENCY POSTINGS

* Emergency numbers should be posted in a conspicuous location and all occupants have been advised of the location.

* Call **911** for any emergency (i.e. fire/medical/police/gas leaks, etc.)

HAZARDS

* Use heat producing appliances in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

* Candles and other open flame devices should never be left unattended.

There are many good web sites with much information relative to campus fire safety. All staff and students are encouraged to take full advantage of these tools by visiting: www.udel.edu/ohs, <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/safety/atrisk/campus/>, <http://www.campusfire.org/>.

Newsletter Award

Who would think that a newsletter with a blue hen on the front and a funny name would win a national award? Well this one did!

The Department of Occupational Health and Safety is proud to announce that our publication won the 2005 Newsletter Award of Excellence presented by the Campus Safety, Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA), which is a division of the National Safety Council. The submitted newsletters were judged

on content for both on-campus and off-the-job general safety and/or

laboratory safety information intended for faculty, staff, and students.



Robin Elliott, Leslie York-Hubbard, and Krista Murray receiving the award from committee members Roger Pugh, WVU and Jimmy Matthews, OU

OHS would like to thank the university community for all the support we have received and for the invaluable feedback that has been provided. Addi-

tionally, thanks to all the DOHS staff for the team effort demonstrated each quarter that is required for production and distribution of the newsletter.

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Injury Reporting

Injury/Illness reporting is like building the bridge to eliminate information from falling through the cracks. This information may seem trivial to the person filling out injury/illness reports, but collectively the information builds a firm foundation for safety investigation and prevention. Without it the chasm between injuries, risks and prevention increase daily. OHS takes pride in servicing the UD community to avoid unnecessary injuries/illnesses. This service factor becomes weakened when there is little substance given on the injury/illness form and investigation form.

Please notify OHS of any injuries requiring medical treatment or involving exposure to a chemical, radioactive, or biological material as soon as possible. Time is lost when phone calls need to be made to fill in the blanks left by a hastily completed report. Awareness to this problem

‘Injury/Illness reporting is like building the bridge to eliminate information from falling through the cracks’

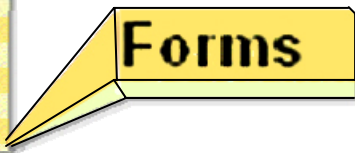
could be strengthened by University departments conducting a safety training meeting to review the forms line by line.

Eventually the answers given are taken from the reports and entered into an injury database program. Ultimately, the statistics provided by the injury program are presented to the Risk Management Advisory Council by the Director of Occupational Health and Safety. This overall annual review provides a bigger picture of safety trends and concerns at UD. Ultimately the success of the program is directly related to the details provided in each incident.

Forms Available on the OHS Website

| PROGRAMS |
|------------------------------------|
| Biosafety and Bloodborne Pathogens |
| Chemical Hygiene |
| Chemical Waste |
| Environmental |
| Fire Prevention and Protection |
| General Safety |
| Illness and Injury Reporting |
| Industrial Hygiene |
| Radiation Safety |
| Right-To-Know / MSDS |
| Safety Committees |
| Safety Education |
| Forms |

The Department of Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) has historically worked diligently to make necessary forms of all types available to the university community through our website. This effort originated so that form retrieval could be very easy, thus increasing the likelihood that the correct forms are completed and submitted in a timely manner. Examples of



the types of forms available include i n j u r y /

illness, biosafety (including the shipping request form), chemical safety (including the shipping request form), radioactive material use forms, laser and x-ray use forms, chemical waste, fire safety, and a few miscellaneous forms. These forms were created in PDF Format as well as in Microsoft Word Format. If you have any questions concerning the forms please contact our office at 831-8475.

Look Who’s Safe!

The Department of Occupational Health and Safety would like to recognize Mark Mankin, Don Cox, and the Mobile Equipment Safety Committee of Facilities Operations and Maintenance. The Mobile Safety Equipment Committee is chaired by Mark Mankin, Assistant Manager of the Structural Services Shop for Facilities. The Mobile Equipment Safety Committee sponsored two training programs on the proper use of mobile lift equipment. The training involved use of the bucket truck and aerial lift equipment.



Mark Mankin

The aerial lift training was conducted by Paul Brownmiller, of United Rentals Equipment Company in Newark. The second training session involved use of the bucket truck. This time the training was conducted by Don Cox, of the UD Roofing Shop. The training included a “hands-on” segment, where all

the participants went up in the University-owned equipment to familiarize themselves with the actual workings of the controls. The attendees were a diverse group of workers, representing the Electric, Pest Control, Electronics, Carpentry, Roofing, Paint, and Grounds Shops in Facilities; all of which have occasion to use lifts on different projects across the campus.

Thank you to the members of the committee and the instructors for helping the employees on campus perform their jobs safely!

Staff Update

Department of Occupational Health and Safety (DOHS) is sorry to announce the departure of one of our staff members who not only made many contributions to the department through her high standards and dedication to her work, but was also a pleasure to work with; Marie Coffin.



Marie joined our department as a student aide in her freshman year and remained with us throughout her entire college experience until spring of 2005 when she graduated. Marie was

instrumental in many aspects of our department, but particularly in the development of our WebCT trainings as well as our newsletters.



On a happier note, Ben Warheit has been hired as our current student aide as Marie's replacement. He will continue to assist with the creation and maintenance of our online training programs. Additionally, he will have a solid role in the production of our quarterly newsletters. Welcome Ben!

Safety Word Search

- EVACUATION PLAN
- MEETING POINT
- FIRE EXIT
- NATURAL GAS
- POWER OUTAGE
- UNSAFE CONDITIONS
- SEVERE WEATHER
- LIGHTNING POLICY
- SMOKE DETECTOR

M C E T K I E X I F U M I C H E S L B Y T
 X R U T E P I E E S N G S P X I M D T E A
 W S B H V I R A A E S R K E O I O N O G O
 A M E U Z E B G M A A W R U S T K A R G Y
 B E S V W C L Y M E F Q U A P P E O U R S
 L V N S E A I F I R E E X I T P D E K C O
 A A N H R R V T B C C T F I L T E Y G O T
 U C O U S U E C H O O O I R I R T S M A S
 M U T N P E O W L O N W Y N Q T E A I Z O
 P A J A O A H F E N D O L D G G C A N P E
 N T A H W M O E W A I X M E Y P T P D D W
 R I R N E R L I G H T N I N G P O L I C Y
 G O T P R C O M T E I H N P O W R I H S I
 U N O I O A R A D D O T E P E S M O N A D
 T P T O U W E E H A N E T R I S O W E T E
 U L I C T R L D O P S L O P H A N G A B D
 E A E L A E E W F I R U E L N O E S S N O
 D N V G G C P I F E T H D A Z T Y B J D H
 U C K N E A H E S A U M G M O F Z D O H S

Safety Shower and Eyewash Testing

Safety shower and eyewash certification and testing is required by the American National Standard Institute (ANSI). The standard states that all safety showers and eyewashes must be certified at least annually and eyewash units should be flow tested weekly. In the past Plumbing Services has certified safety showers and eyewashes every six months. Due to Plumbing Service's workload, they have asked to certify the equipment annually, as required by the standard. OHS has agreed and reminds all researchers and

'Eyewash units should be flow tested weekly'

personnel to flow test their eyewashes weekly. Contact OHS for recommendations on how to flow test your eyewash if it is not plumbed or if it drains on to the floor. Also, contact both OHS and Plumbing Services if you would like to flow test your safety showers more frequently. Some safety showers have a remote shut off that is not accessible. Plumbing Services will advise if flow testing by the users is possible and OHS can recommend an inexpensive testing apparatus to contain the water.

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**Check out our
 web page!
www.udel.edu/ohs**



Training Schedule for upcoming DOHS Courses—
 for additional information and upcoming courses please see our website!

* Note: All trainings take place in GSB 130 unless otherwise specified.

Lessons Learned: Autoclave Safety



Recently, a researcher went to autoclave some media. He loaded it into the autoclave and closed the door. The door lock light came on and he started the cycle. Everything appeared to be starting normally so he went back to his lab. Some time later, another researcher was walking down the hall and noticed the autoclave didn't sound like it usually did. When she tried to look into the window in the door, the glass was clouded by condensation. Steam was coming out the door of the autoclave. She contacted Occupational Health and Safety, and we contacted Facilities through the Operations Center at x1141. The mechanics had to shut down the steam and electricity to the unit.

Fortunately, no one was injured during this incident. Apparently the door was not closing properly though the indicators said it was. Several people who work in the

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| August 9 Rm. 130 GSB | Radiation Safety Refresher Training | 9:00-10:00a.m. | William Fendt |
| August 9 Rm. 130, GSB | CPR - Heartsaver <i>(Cost of This Class is \$30.00)</i> | 6:00-9:00p.m. | Kevin Eichinger |
| August 11 Rm. 130, GSB | Computer Workstation Ergonomics | 11:00-12:00p.m. | William Fendt |
| August 12 Rm. 130, GSB | Confined Space Training Part 2 of 2 | 9:00-10:00a.m. | Joe Miller |
| August 16 Rm. 130, GSB | Biosafety Awareness Training | 10:00-11:00a.m. | Krista Murray |
| August 17 Rm. 130, GSB | Biosafety Training | 2:00-3:00p.m. | Krista Murray |
| August 18 Rm. 130, GSB | Chemical Waste Training | 9:00-10:00a.m. | Murray Tate |
| August 19 Rm. 130, GSB | Compressed Gas Safety Training | 9:00-11:00a.m. | Kevin Eichinger |
| August 19 Rm. 130, GSB | Environmental Programs at the U of D | 2:00-3:00p.m. | Dave Levandoski |
| September 2 104 Cannon Lab, (Lewes Campus) | Right-to-Know Training - Lab | 10:00-11:00a.m. | Kevin Eichinger |
| September 2 104 Cannon Lab (Lewes Campus) | Hydrofluoric Acid Safety Training | 11:00-12:00p.m. | Kevin Eichinger |
| September 6 Rm. 130, GSB | Right-to-Know Training for Lab Workers | 10:00-11:00a.m. | Kevin Eichinger |
| September 6 Rm. 130, GSB | Laser Safety Training | 3:00-4:00p.m. | William Fendt |

area stated the autoclave had idiosyncrasies, and some believed the unit shouldn't have been in service, though there were no notices posted to that effect.

If an autoclave malfunctions, do not try to shut down the steam or utilities yourself-contact Facilities and/or DOHS. Use caution when opening the door to the room; the steam

can cause severe burns, and the autoclave itself could be extremely hot. If a unit is having any mechanical problems, post a warning on the unit to not use it, and notify the appropriate individuals to have it serviced as soon as possible; do not use the unit in the meantime if there are any concerns about its function!