

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

SAFETY DISPATCH

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

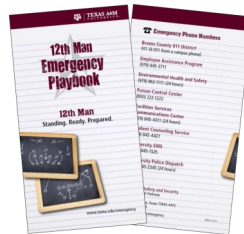
ISSUE 27
FALL 2015

Safety & Preparedness Month: Be Ready

September is National Preparedness Month, National Campus Safety Awareness Month, and Campus Fire Safety Month. Take the opportunity to review your facility emergency evacuation plan and ensure it is up to date. Now is also a great time to make an emergency communication plan for your family members or roommates, and Ready.gov has great resources to help keep you and your family prepared for any emergency.

To celebrate Campus Fire Safety Month and promote fire safety on campus, the Department of Residence Life and Environmental Health & Safety will host the 7th Annual Mock Dorm Room Burn on September 15th. There will be emergency preparedness information at resource tables along

with free pizza courtesy of Domino's starting at 7pm. Make sure to like our [Facebook page](#) for more information.



In honor of National Campus Safety Awareness Month, take

the opportunity to review the emergency procedures in the 12th Man Emergency Playbook. It has information on what to do in a variety of emergencies, including an active shooter situation, fire, hazardous materials release, medical emergency, or severe weather. Electronic copies are available [online](#) and can be valuable to share with your department.

Click the flyer below to watch a video of the 2009 Dorm Burn, courtesy of The Batt Online.

The Department of Residence Life & Environmental Health and Safety present

Tuesday
Sept. 15th
7:00 pm
SIMPSON
Drill Field
Free Pizza
special thanks to

the seventh annual
& Dorm
Room
Burn



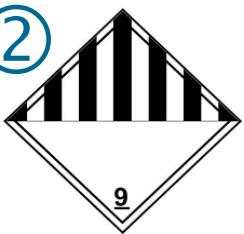
How fast
will your
room
burn?



Learn how to get out and stay alive.

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NEW REGULATIONS FOR SHIPPING LITHIUM BATTERIES

The new lithium battery regulation effective August 7, 2015, has three major components with which battery shippers must comply:

- In DOT Hazardous Material Regulation, 49 CFR 171.8, there are added definitions for the following terms:
 - * Lithium ion cell or battery
 - * Lithium metal cell or battery
 - * Short circuit
 - * Watt-hour
- The six Proper Shipping Names and four identification numbers for lithium batteries are in the Hazmat Table, 49CFR 172.101. The shipping of lithium batteries is no longer under the conditional authorization that was in place since 2009.
- DOT has reduced the number of Special Provisions that regulated "small" lithium batteries. Reference **49 CFR 173.185**.

Lithium Battery Communication and Marking Rules:

- Lithium Battery Packing Groups have been eliminated by DOT and internationally. Shippers may no longer indicate packing groups for lithium batteries on shipping papers or other communication.
- In the newly revised regulation, only packages of lithium batteries contained in equipment or packed with equipment with no more than 2 batteries or 4 cells per package (size limits in watt-hour and lithium content are indicated in the regulation) are excluded from on-package hazard communication. The outer package must be marked that it contains "lithium metal" or "lithium ion" cells or batteries. Reference **49 CFR 173.185 (c)(3)**.
- The outer package containing lithium metal cells or batteries must be marked with "PRIMARY LITHIUM

BATTERIES – FORBIDDEN FOR TRANSPORT ABOARD PASSENGER AIRCRAFT" or "LITHIUM METAL BATTERIES – FORBIDDEN FOR TRANSPORT ABOARD PASSENGER AIRCRAFT."

- For transport by highway or rail, only the outer package must be marked "LITHIUM BATTERIES – FORBIDDEN FOR TRANSPORT ABOARD AIRCRAFT AND VESSEL" (example below).
- The newly revised USPS lithium battery rules will harmonize with the new DOT lithium battery regulations. Reference **USPS Publication 52**.

Please contact EHS at 845-2132 for more information.

**LITHIUM BATTERIES -
FORBIDDEN FOR TRANSPORT
ABOARD AIRCRAFT AND VESSEL**

LR38 / GC LABELS / 800-997-6966 / PRINTED IN USA

ATTENTION: Engineering researchers are reminded that all the trainings previously available through the TEES/Engineering Safety website are under review by EHS. Trainings are being evaluated to consolidate the material with existing EHS programs and to make certain courses available to the entire campus community. For questions, please **email** EHS.

Ladder Safety

Most laboratories, shops, and buildings on campus have ladders and stepladders available for various reasons. Ladders are useful tools to have, but safety guidelines must always be followed to help prevent accidents:

- Make sure that ladders and stepstools are not left out unattended. Students and passersby may find them tempting to climb or can accidentally trip over them.
- Inspect the ladder thoroughly before using it, ensuring the rungs are not loose or skidding. Attach skid-resistant strips to be safe, and be sure to wear appropriate shoes.
- Check for signs of any cracks or splits in wooden ladders. Bent rungs also pose a hazard and should not exist above three feet.
- Stepladders should not be opened partially. They must be fully opened with the cross braces locked tightly. Rung locks should always be engaged and locked on extension ladders.
- You should face the ladder while climbing up and down, keeping at least one hand on the rails at all times. If you need

both hands to do a job, secure yourself firmly to the ladder with an appropriate tie-off.

- The feet of the ladder should always be on a dry, even surface.
- Never use an aluminum ladder near live electrical sources.
- Take care to position the ladder so that the distance between the base and the wall is a minimum of one-quarter of the ladder's length up to the point of support.
- Climb only as high as the ladder is designed to go and follow all posted warnings. Under no circumstance should your hips be above the top of the ladder.
- Only one person at a time should be on a ladder.

For more information about ladder safety, see the OSHA [webpage](#).



Are You Ready for Some Aggie Football?

Before you park on campus and fire up your grill, read the campus tailgating rules on the 12th Man Gameday Central [website](#).

Selling food at your tailgate before a football game? Planning a fundraiser for your organization on campus?

Remember that any sale or distribution of food to the public must be approved by EHS, and preparing or cooking the food yourself may require a temporary food permit from the Brazos County Health Department. For more information, visit the EHS Food Safety [page](#).



If you notice signs of heat stress, be sure to move the affected person to a cool place. Loosen tight clothing and apply cool, wet towels to their skin. If the person is conscious, give small amounts of cool water to drink. If their condition worsens, they begin vomiting, or they lose consciousness, call 911 (9-911 from a campus phone), and place them on their side. Continue to cool them by using ice or cold packs on their wrists, ankles, groin, neck, and armpits. If you experience heat stress at Kyle Field, see any of the [first aid stations](#) located within the stadium or get the attention of a game attendant.

SIGNS OF HEAT STRESS:

- Fatigue/Weakness
- Headache
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Cramps
- Cool/Clammy Skin
- Flushed Face
- Hot & Dry Skin
- No Perspiration
- Chills

Mark Your Calendar...

September 15:

7th Annual Mock Dorm Room Burn
7PM @ Simpson Drill Field

See the [front page](#) article for more information.

September 17:

National Night Out Kickoff
4-7PM @ Target in Bryan

October 1&2:

Flu Vaccine Clinic

Employees who present their current insurance ID card will receive the flu vaccine (shot or mist) at no cost. More information will be coming from [Benefits Services](#).

October 6:

Controlled Substances Disposal Event
10AM-3PM

All DEA registrants will have an opportunity to dispose of unwanted or outdated controlled substances. The event will be hosted by EHS, and there are no associated costs for individual registrants. For more information and required forms, contact EHS at 845-4029.

October 8:

National Night Out
6-8 PM @ Hullabaloo Hall

October 21:

Campus Sustainability Day
10AM-2PM @ Rudder Plaza

October 24:

Stream Clean
8-11AM

The annual Aggie Stream Clean will kick off from the EHS parking lot. All individuals that pre-register by October 9th will be provided a t-shirt, and student service groups are welcome to participate. To register and get more information, contact [EHS](#).

October 24:

Household Hazardous Waste & Computer Collection

7AM-2PM @ University Services Building

For more information, including a map to the collection site and lists of accepted and prohibited items, visit the Twin Oaks Landfill/BVSWMA [website](#).

November 26-27:

Thanksgiving holiday

For more upcoming dates and events:

[EHS Calendar](#)
[University Calendar](#)

Get to Know Us



Dave Zeiger is an Environmental Safety Assistant Manager with the fire and life safety group. He has worked for EHS since 2014 and came to us with 24 years of experience with the El Paso Fire Department, retiring as Captain. Dave has a degree from West Texas A&M University in emergency management. He is a certified Fire Inspector and specializes in code compliance within new construction and remodeling projects. Dave is also a certified Chaplain and has served in that capacity as a volunteer for 15 years. He enjoys travelling with his wife, cycling, and hockey.



Donna Adams is an Environmental Health and Safety Specialist II. She has worked for EHS since 2001 and is a certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist, licensed mold assessment consultant, and licensed asbestos inspector. Donna's passion is hearing conservation – she performs evaluations in areas where high noise levels may impact safe work and suggests ways to moderate the noise or protect affected employees' hearing. Donna's hearing conservation training is a yearly event for many groups, including the cadets who serve Parson's Mounted Cavalry. She also performs annual audiograms for individuals who work in areas where noise exceeds established safe levels. In her free time, Donna enjoys volunteering with the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, a 501(c)3 which funds scholarships, grants, and endowments for higher education in Texas.

OUR MISSION: Environmental Health and Safety supports and enriches Texas A&M University by providing quality programs and services that instill safety, health, and environmental stewardship.

Don't forget to keep up with EHS...

Click on any link to stay connected



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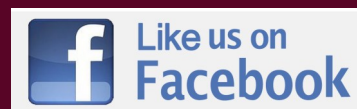
EHS webpage



Follow EHS



**Current and past issues of
*Safety Dispatch***



**EHS
The Environment**

Safety Sound Off

- Dr. Carlos Gonzalez's laboratory facility in the NMR building was inspected in August to follow up on a chemical storage requirement. Dr. Gonzalez's group of researchers did an exceptional job at remedying the storage situation by organizing the chemicals according to their hazard classes. The students also worked hard to color code each chemical class and label the cabinets for effective hazard communication, thus ensuring that chemicals will be stored in their appropriate spaces in the future. Thank you to Dr. Gonzalez and his team for their efforts to improve their laboratory's safety environment.



- On August 24, a motorist was attempting to pull onto University Drive from Church Avenue when he began to suffer a serious health crisis. His truck was partially across the westbound lanes of University as he struggled to keep his foot on the brake and manage his sudden onset of symptoms. Nearby witnesses noticed the issue and rushed to assist the man, shattering a window to get in to the vehicle. His truck eventually made it across the street and partially up onto the sidewalk and landscaping near the Jack E. Brown building. During this busy time of day, a small group of onlookers placed themselves into lanes on both sides of University to alert approaching motorists and wave for them to stop, thereby preventing a collision with the idling truck. One of those people stopping traffic was Ryan McCallum (pictured), a Senior IT Associate with UES. Thank you to Ryan and all the other helpful witnesses, whose quick action helped control a potentially dangerous situation.



Know someone who applies good health and safety practices at TAMU or has positively impacted our university's environment? Send their name, work department, and reason why we should feature them in our next Safety Sound Off to safetydispatch@tamu.edu.

Environmental Concerns?

Have you ever been walking along on campus and noticed an environmental issue that didn't seem right or looked odd? Maybe it was a strange puddle of water or a discolored area of grass, and you wondered who on campus you should report it to or who might take care of it. Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) would be your answer!

EHS has an environmental management section that handles these issues. The group will record your concern or complaint, investigate the cause, and remediate the situation if there is an issue that requires attention.

To report an emergency or an immediate concern, contact the Communications Center at 845-4311. Some examples of situations that might require immediate attention are oil or gasoline flowing toward our storm water system, foam or an oily sheen at a waterway on campus, or an obvious fish kill. If the concern is something you are wondering about or does not require immediate attention, you can contact EHS at 845-2132 or [email](#) the environmental group.

Please be prepared to provide details about the nature of the concern, the location, when the issue occurred (date and time), and who or what might be the source. Any information or evidence you may have, particularly eyewitness information, documents, or photographs, will be helpful.

EHS takes every complaint seriously, and we will investigate your concerns. After receiving the complaint and any information or evidence you provide, in most cases, we will conduct an on-site investigation to see if any environmental regulations have been violated. If a violation has occurred, we will notify the proper authorities and initiate remediation activities. If the investigation reveals no violation has occurred but the issue requires attention, we will take steps to correct the problem and prevent it from happening again.



For more information about the EHS environmental group, visit our [facebook](#) or [web](#) pages.

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SAFETY DISPATCH
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

1111 Research Parkway, Suite 220
MS 4472
College Station, TX 77843-4472
Phone: 979.845.2132
Fax: 979.845.1348
safetydispatch@tamu.edu
http://ehsd.tamu.edu
Director: Christina Robertson

EHS Programs:

Agricultural Safety
Asbestos
AEDs
Chemical Waste
Emergency Management
Environmental Management
Ergonomics
Fire & Life Safety
Food Safety
Hazardous Material Shipping
Hearing Conservation
Indoor Air Quality
Industrial Hygiene
Laboratory Safety
Occupational Health
Occupational Safety
Radiological Safety
Respiratory Protection
Scientific Diving

Environmental Health & Safety is a department under the Office of Safety and Security and the Vice President for Finance and Administration. Click [here](#) to provide feedback.

EHS Training Schedule

Click on a name or date below to register for classroom training:

General Radiation Safety	9/24, 10/22, 11/11
Vet School Radiation Safety	9/23, 10/27, 11/19
Hazardous Materials Shipping General Awareness	9/17, 10/15, 11/19
Introduction to Laboratory Safety	9/29

Interested in other trainings?

See the list of currently offered courses (online and classroom) on the [EHS training page](#) or call 979-845-2132 to inquire about additional topics.

DID

National Night Out has been held annually in the United States and Canada since 1984 and is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW).

Over the past two years, Kyle Field has undergone one of the largest and most extensive redevelopment projects in the history of collegiate athletics. The new Kyle Field features an expanded seating capacity of 102,733, making it one of the five largest stadiums in collegiate football.

YOU

There are five categories of ladder duty ratings, ranging from 200 pounds (Type III—Light Duty) to 375 pounds (Type IAA—Extra Heavy Duty).

Lithium is the lightest of all metals on the Periodic Table of Elements, with a density approximately half that of water.

KNOW?




We need to hear from you



Notice a safety concern that affects you or your department? Have an environmental, health, or safety question you would like to get answered? Have a topic in mind that you want to see in the next issue of *Safety Dispatch*?

[Let us know!](#)

Enter to win a great fall prize...

Can you count how many times the  leaf appears in this newsletter? For a chance to win a prize, email your answer to safetydispatch@tamu.edu.