Reminders

Labor Management Safety Committee Meeting
- July 29, 2015
- August - no meeting
- September, 30 2015

Trainings
- Spill Prevention - July
- Lab Safety - August

Laboratory Safety Committee Meeting
- September 2015

Hazard Detection Inspections:
- St. Martins 7-14-2015
- Fisher Hall 8-11-2015
- Towers LLC 9-8-2015

Facilities Waste Shipment
- September 8, 2015

Fall Evacuation Drills
- September 2015

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Annual Lab Safety Meeting

By: Paula Sweitzer

Our 14th annual Lab Safety Meeting was held on May 18, 2015; we had an attendance of over 200...the cookies and tea may have helped! Several safety items were discussed during this year’s meeting. Bob Haushalter presented his weekly inspection overviews and had many good pictures to share.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
<th>Pharmacy</th>
<th>Totals</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>381</td>
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<td>2011</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>305</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>397</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>337</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>333</td>
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Ryan Reilly reviewed several components of Fire Safety on campus, such as alarm systems and components, sprinklers, hoses, extinguishers, doors, and exit routes and evacuation procedures. Lastly, I reviewed lab inspections and the most common finding being issues related to general housekeeping. The make-up for this meeting has been posted on blackboard. If you were unable to attend, please log in and review the materials.

Lab Safety Awards

By: Paula Sweitzer

During our annual Lab Safety Meeting, EHS awarded three individual safety awards to a member of the departments of pharmacy, chemistry, and biology. The awards were developed to acknowledge those who go above and beyond with a dedicated commitment to safety. This year’s awards went to:

Biology: Kim Nath (left)
Chemistry—Matt Srnec (middle)
Pharmacy—Rehana Leak (right)
2015 Annual Floor Marshal Award

By: Paula Sweitzer

Kevin Smith, CTS Help Desk was this year’s Floor Marshal of the Year, due to his continued dedication and leadership in our program. Kevin was a floor marshal in Rockwell, but has since moved to Cooper. Kevin has gone above and beyond his floor marshal duties over the past year and EHS was very pleased to give him this award.

- He was a huge help with the change in gathering points for the Rockwell evacuations.
- He conducts follow-ups after drills and events to get the feedback; and he will then forward that on to his department.

He has come up with new ideas to help with the safety of his department; such as the development of an attendance list for the staff, so they can do a head count once outside. He also developed an info card for any visitors to their area.

Life Safety in a University Environment

By: Ryan Reilly

As we exit and enter a building on a daily basis we may not notice critical life safety devices located throughout University buildings. Items such as alarm systems, sprinklers, hoses, fire extinguishers, and procedures help to ensure occupants are protected to the greatest extent possible.

At Duquesne University alarm systems are tested in accordance with City Ordinances adopted from the International Fire Code. This includes the testing of initiating devices such as alarm pulls, smoke and heat detectors, and supervisory switches for pressure flow on fire pump systems. Notification appliances that output audible, tactile, or a combination of signals include horns, bells, speakers, strobes, and text displays. The alarm systems have a distinctive 3-beep temporal tone that alert occupants throughout a facility’s designated area to evacuate. Another component that reduces the potential for fire spread and property loss are sprinklers. Buildings that are not sprinkled, have fire hoses for use by trained personnel and the fire department. Over 1,200 fire extinguishers are present at the University and are a first line of defense for fighting a fire. There are various makes and models depending on the class of fire that is encountered. They are placed in consistent locations near doors and emergency alarm pull devices, so a person using this device may have a safe exit route of travel and ability to alert other occupants via the alarm pull. If occupants happen to find themselves unable to exit a building to the exterior, fire-rated doors are a means of protection in enclosed stairwells. Dependent on the material construction of the hardware, frame, and door they can protect occupants from fire spread and smoke for ½ hour - 3 hours. All of these are critical components to ensuring life safety, but your knowledge of the buildings travel routes for safe and prompt exit may be your greatest protection. Remember to keep exit routes unobstructed, follow the primary exit route, and proceed to the gathering point.

It Out

New Chemical Labels from Fisher with Q-Scan for Safety Data Sheets
Flood Preparation

Bob Haushalter

With all the rain we have been getting for the last two weeks, I thought it may be a good idea to talk about Flood Preparation. Whether you are at home or walking around the neighborhood, flash flooding can happen quickly and be life threatening. Let’s start out with a few facts about Flooding.

- Flooding is the most common natural disaster in Pennsylvania and throughout the United States.
- Flood damage in the U.S. is costly (several billions of dollars per year).
- Your property insurance probably does not cover flood damage. Talk to your insurance carrier or look at the National Flood Insurance Program at www.floodsmart.gov.

Preparation

- Get an emergency supply kit that includes enough provisions for you and your family to live on for a minimum of three days.
- Make an emergency plan for you and your family (flashlight, battery-powered radio, etc).

After a Flood

- Check for damage
- Remove wet contents immediately (wet carpeting, furniture, bedding and any other items holding moisture can develop mold.
- Thoroughly dry out the building’s interior.
- Clean and disinfect
- Plan before you repair (check for local codes)

Pennsylvania Emergency Management – (www.pema.pa.gov)

Flash Flood Watch

Flash flooding is possible along small streams and rivers. Be prepared to move to higher ground.

Flash Flood Warning

Flash flooding is imminent and occurring. Seek higher ground immediately.

Annual Laboratory Inspections

By: Paula Sweitzer

The annual lab inspections were recently completed for the Biology and Chemistry departments. These lab inspections are a thorough inspection and the inspection team consists of at least four individuals. The most common violations include:

- Housekeeping – sloppy work areas, cluttered fume hoods, blocked egress, etc. Each lab should take 5 minutes at the end of the day to clean their lab.
- Chemical inventories – most were posted, but not up-to-date. EHS asked for these on an annual basis, but they should be updated throughout the year.

Blocked emergency equipment – we saw blocked access to the plumbed eyewashes and to fire extinguishers. These items may need to be used in an emergency and cannot be blocked.
Fall Protection Quiz

A fall arrest device should be able to support at least 900 pounds of force.

True
False

A good anchor point is electrical conduit, PVC piping, or wire supports for lighting that hold 50 – 80 pounds of force.

True
False

The ABC’s of fall protection stand for anchor point, body harness, and connection.

True
False

An example of a good anchor point is

PVC piping for plumbing
Lighting conduit
2 inch natural gas pipe line
Steel I beam supporting a structure with a clamp or d-bolt

A cross arm strap can be used on a vertical structure or horizontal structure support.

True
False

EHS Metrics 2014

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inspections</td>
<td>28,434</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>1,465</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evacuation Drills</td>
<td>68 buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Suggestions</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maximo – general safety</td>
<td>187</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological Waste Shipments</td>
<td>229 boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Campus Waste Shipments</td>
<td>14,261 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Waste Shipments</td>
<td>22,194 pounds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radioactive Waste Shipments</td>
<td>9 drums, 10 boxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbestos Projects</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbestos Samples</td>
<td>140</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asbestos - Total Area Surveyed</td>
<td>79,465 ft²</td>
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