

Safety Beacon

Department of Environmental Health and Safety

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MANDATORY PERMIT

Federal Permits

Permit/licenses are issued to institutions or individuals and can have very specific requirements depending on the nature of the permit and the legislation under which it is issued. Recently we were notified that a UD researcher was cited by a Federal Agency for violating import permit requirements. You should re-familiarize yourself with the requirements and limitations of any licenses/permits you possess or work under, for your benefit as well as for the benefit of the University.

Permits such as those issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), for example, are issued to individuals and are not to be loaned, shared, or used by others not specifically listed on the permit. Each permit has specific requirements and limitations.

Please submit copies of any permits and licenses to EHS electronically as a PDF to Mike Gladle (mgladle@udel.edu) or via interoffice mail (EHS, General Service Building, Room 132) so that permit information can be entered into the Lab Management database. The Lab Management program has the capability to send out electronic reminders of impending expiration dates. In addition, EHS can review requirements and restrictions of any permits during lab audits. (FAQ on page 3)

NIFAST Training

In October 2011, a joint effort of Environmental Health & Safety and Residence Life and Housing began testing a web-based fire safety training program. This training is being offered to approximately 700 UD students who reside both on and off campus.

The training program was developed by the National Institute of Fire Safety Training (NIFAST) and is called Flashpoint and is designed with both on and off-campus residents in mind. Its eight training modules include exit planning, kitchen fire safety, fire prevention measures, and fire extinguisher training. The program also provides on-campus residents with floor plans and fire evacuation procedures for all UD Residence Halls, the Conover Apartments, the Graduate House and Greek Housing. A written exam of 44 questions is provided upon completion of the training modules or, for the more daring, after review of the Residence Hall Complex fire evacuation plans, the student can challenge the exam.

An 80% passing score results in the award of a training certificate to the successful student. An important element of this training program is its ability to offer training to off-campus students. This population is often more vulnerable during a fire event as most off-campus student housing lacks fire safety features of on-campus housing such as automatic sprinkler and monitored fire alarm systems.

Contact Kevin McSweeney or Jeff Work for more information. 831-8475

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FP&C

StormWater On Campus

Have you seen me on the campus stormwater catch basins?



UD's Stormwater Program

Storm water runoff occurs when rain or melting snow flows over the ground. Impervious surfaces like driveways, sidewalks, and streets prevent runoff from naturally soaking into the ground. Stormwater picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, and other pollutants and flows into a storm sewer or directly to a lake, stream, river, wetland, or bay. Anything that enters a storm sewer system is discharged **untreated** into the water we use for swimming, fishing and drinking water. EHS has placed medallions on all storm sewer entrances on campus to remind us to keep stormwater runoff clean.

Polluted stormwater runoff can have many adverse effects on plants, fish, animals, and people. For instance, fertilizers carried by runoff can cause algae in lakes and bays to grow rapidly. When the algae die, they sink to the bottom and decompose in a process that removes oxygen from the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can't exist in water with low dissolved oxygen levels. Sediment clouds the water and makes it difficult for aquatic plants to grow and destroys habitats used by aquatic animals. Bacteria can wash into swimming areas and create health hazards, often making beach closures necessary. Debris like plastic bags, bottles, and cigarette butts washed into bodies of water are sometime mistaken as food and will choke or suffocate fish, turtles, and birds. Household hazardous wastes like pesticides, paint, solvents, used motor oil, and other auto fluids can poison aquatic life. Animals and people can become sick from eating diseased fish or drinking polluted water. Polluted stormwater often affects drinking water sources. This, in turn, can affect human health and increase drinking water treatment costs.

How you can help reduce pollution from storm runoff:

- ✓ Minimize the use of fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides on your home lawns and follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper application. Do not over apply.
- ✓ Remain on designated pathways when walking around campus to prevent the formation of dirt pathways which contribute to runoff.
- ✓ Pick up pet waste in your yard and dispose of in the trash can. Properly maintain your septic system.
- ✓ Keep litter off the street. Put trash in trash cans and clean up litter and recycle whenever possible. Call 831-1141 to request assistance for excessive trash observed on campus.
- ✓ Reduce the use of toxic household substances such as mothballs, insect sprays, and drain and oven cleaners. Properly dispose of household hazardous waste and try to buy products labeled non-toxic. The Delaware Solid Waste Authority webpage www.dswa.com has a list of quarterly household hazardous waste drop-off sites.
- ✓ Service your car regularly to prevent oils and other fluids from leaking onto the pavement. Recycle motor oil at participating Recycle Delaware locations. (www.dswa.com)
- ✓ Wash your car at a car wash which recycles wash water or wash your car on the lawn so that soap suds and dirty water get filtered in the grass instead of running directly to the nearest storm drain.
- ✓ Contact Environmental Health and Safety at 831-8475 if you observe anything other than rain water in the campus storm drains, streams, or stormwater ponds.

Look Who's New at EHS

Please join us in welcoming Matt Moyer, our new EHS student assistant. Matt is currently a sophomore majoring in Quantitative Biology and joined the EHS staff in August. He will be assisting primarily with the Radiation and Laser Safety programs, visiting labs on a monthly basis to perform safety surveys, calibrating radiation safety meters and instruments, delivering radiation dosimeters to labs as well as assisting with the collection and safe management of laboratory hazardous waste. Prior to joining the EHS staff, Matt worked on campus at the Rodney Dining Hall. We are happy to have Matt on staff and encourage you to say hello if you see him during his travels around campus.



Bernie Alexander Fire Safety Award 2010-2011—Facilities Planning and Construction

Peter Krawchyk and the staff at Facilities Planning and Construction have distinguished themselves with outstanding support to EHS/Fire Protection in a multitude of areas this year. The level of fire safety system improvements throughout campus this year is monumental. Peter personally accepted the challenge of replacing both fire pumps at Laird Campus, adding sprinkler protection for the building and replacing a non-compliant diesel fuel tank. This outstanding effort was led by Dave McNamara and was completed just as the Fall Semester began. This effort satisfies a long standing recommendation by FM Global as a leading fire safety deficiency at UD.

Frequently Asked Questions—Federal Permits (continued from page 1)

What type of permits should I be concerned about?

Any permit or license issued by a federal agency has specific terms and conditions with which you must comply. These permits may be required for importing, shipping, or processing biological materials, wildlife, and protected flora and fauna.

Who issues these permits?

An agency that has an interest in the protection of public health, wildlife, or the environment may require a permit or license. Federal agencies that often issue permits include the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are among the federal agencies that may require special permits or licenses. Additionally, some state and local agencies may also require permits or licenses for handling some materials.

What are my obligations as a permit holder?

As a permit holder or licensee, you are required to be familiar with and adhere to all the requirements and restrictions of the permit or license. You are also obligated to make sure that any person working under your supervision is familiar with and complies with the requirements and restrictions of the permit or license.

Note that most permits or licenses are issued to a specific person or entity and cannot be transferred or used by another person or entity without the written permission of the agency issuing the permit or license.

What are the consequences of failing to observe permit requirements and restrictions?

Penalties for failure to observe permit conditions, including failure to maintain an up-to-date permit, can range from a loss of research opportunities all the way to fines or even imprisonment.

How can EHS help me make sure my permits are up-to-date?

You should forward copies of any permits or licenses to EHS to be entered into the Lab Management database. Once entered into its database, EHS will issue reminders of impending expiration dates.

What else can EHS do to help me?

EHS can review permit and license requirements and restrictions as part of a regular lab audit.

Contact EHS at 831-8475 with any questions.