

## Maintenance and Operations Fire

*January 30th, 2018*



Firefighters work to put out the blaze on January 30, 2018

A recent fire at Facilities Maintenance and Operations was determined to be accidental by the State Fire Marshal's Office. The January 30th Fire started in a 2nd floor office suite on the south wing of Facilities Maintenance and Operations at approximately 6:00 pm. University Police, Aetna Fire Department and other mutual aid fire companies, along with EHS responded to the stubborn fire. Fire crews were finally able to make headway and stop the fire after cutting into the slate with concrete deck roof system. The contents provided enough fuel to sustain the fire once started. The fire disrupted the Maintenance and Operations Department, including the relocation of the 1141 Service Call. Many of the other trade shops including but not limited to Electronics, HVAC and BAS staff were relocated and are functioning. The ability of Electronics and others enabled restoration of the fire alarm system which allowed many of the shops further from the fire to return to normal operations.



Cryogenic Gloves

## Glove Safety

*Are you wearing the correct gloves?*



Neoprene Gloves (for HF use)

Have you ever used a chainsaw to cut a sandwich? Pliers to pluck your eyebrows? No, because that would be nonsense. It's the same idea for choosing gloves inside the lab. One must select the proper glove to get the adequate protection for any job that you may be doing. Gloves are made of various materials and each has a unique function, i.e., chemical resistant gloves, cut resistant gloves, temperature resistant gloves, etc.

When working with Liquid nitrogen, dry ice, or extremely low-temperatures, you should use a glove appropriate for the cryogenic material; these gloves are usually mid-arm in length and well insulated; they are available from vendors including Fisher, Grainger, and others. Most departments using these materials should already have these gloves available so make sure you ask your supervisor or safety chair before doing any work with cryogenic liquids or dry ice. Of course, when handling cryogenic materials make sure you have appropriate eye protection and a face shield if there is the potential for a splash hazard. Another specialized glove that is important to have available would be leather gloves or cut resistant gloves. These are important if you work in an area with power tools, or when dealing with broken glass or materials that are too sharp for traditional nitrile gloves.

If you are working in the lab with solvents or corrosives, you should avoid wearing thin polyethylene gloves since many organic solvents can breakthrough quite easy. Nitrile gloves, however, provide excellent dexterity and protection from most chemicals found in the lab; of course, these gloves are not appropriate for all chemical use, as in the case of hydrofluoric acid (HF). Whenever using HF, you must follow the standard operating procedure (SOP) and use the longer gauntlet style neoprene gloves provided by EHS.

If you are unsure about which glove or glove material is appropriate for the conditions or materials you are working with please contact EHS at 302-831-8475. We will walk through the selection process with you to make sure that you have adequate protection.

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## Spring Ahead!

*Change your Clocks and the Batteries in your Smoke Detectors*



**Working**  
**SMOKE ALARMS**  
**SAVE LIVES**

**Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery**

*"Dedicated To Life Safety"*

## UD Recertified as a HEARTSafe Campus

*AED's available in over 50 buildings*

The University of Delaware was recertified as a HEARTSafe Campus this month by the National Collegiate Emergency Medical Services Foundation (NCEMSF), American Heart Association, and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Association. The recognition program was developed to focus on public cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training and rapid access to automated external defibrillators (AEDs) at academic institutions.

According to NCEMSF, the cornerstone of any HEARTSafe Campus is a vibrant campus-based emergency medical response organization, along with rapid public access to defibrillation, early access to advanced care, and public CPR and AED training. To qualify for the award, UD completed and submitted a rigorous self-assessment and verification packet and fulfilled all required criteria to improve the chances that anyone suffering a sudden cardiac arrest will have the best possible chance for survival.

You will see red, white and blue stickers with the words "HEARTSafe Campus- AED Equipped Building" on the entrances to buildings on the Newark campus, Hugh R. Sharp Campus in Lewes, Georgetown, and Wilmington campuses. The presence of the sticker indicates that the building houses at least one AED unit, which can be used in the event of a cardiac arrest to help restart an individual's heart. In addition to the buildings, all UD Police cars and the University ambulance are also equipped with the devices.

For a complete list of AEDs on campus, go to <http://www1.udel.edu/ehs/generalhs/aed-locations.html> or check the Campus Maps for buildings that have a heart symbol on them. If you click on the heart symbol, you will see the specific location of the AED within that building.



Sample of the stickers located on AED equipped buildings



UDECU Members hold up the HeartSafe Campus award

For more information on CPR classes or the AED program, visit UD's [Environmental Health and Safety website](#).

# Submitting a Confined Space Permit?

*follow the steps below...*

With late spring and summer approaching and numerous construction projects coming, it would be a good time to review UD's Confined Space Permit program and what is required.

You can fill out a Confined Space Permit Entry Form on the Environmental Health & Safety webpage <http://www1.udel.edu/ehs/generalhs/construction/confined-space.html>

1. Fill out and submit the entry permit form.
2. Print the completed confined space entry permit.
3. The job supervisor must take the permit to the work area and explain the hazards to the entrants and the attendant.
4. The entrants and supervisor must sign the entry permit
5. The work area atmosphere is then tested for oxygen and hazardous gasses and the sampling results recorded on the entry permit.
6. The entrants can then don the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), enter the work area and perform the work tasks.
7. Periodically record the atmospheric conditions on the entry permit while the work is being performed.
8. When work is completed, call EHS at 831-8475 and confirm that all work has been finished. After normal working hours, leave a voice mail message.
9. The supervisor then closes out the permit by signing it and recording the time.
10. The hard copy of the permit is returned to the EHS office.

If there are any questions regarding this procedure please contact Duane Reese in the EHS office at 302-831-3126.



University of Delaware Facilities employees participate in Confined Space training at the Material Management Facility here on campus.



A confined space manhole at 501 South College Avenue

# Commonly Asked Chemical Waste Questions

*“What do I do now?”*

The most common question EHS receives when speaking with individuals is “What did I do now?” The second most popular question is typically related to chemical waste. EHS has compiled a list of the most frequent questions regarding chemical waste. If you have a specific question that is not listed, please feel free to contact EHS directly.

## 1) What do I use to collect the waste?

### a. Liquids:

- Low-Density Polyethylene Container (LDPE) for solvent and non-corrosive aqueous streams. No larger than 5 gallons.



- Non-metallic safety cans with self-venting lid (Justrite safety cans) for corrosive waste streams. No larger than 2 ½ gallons.



- b. **Solids:**
- Approved lab trash boxes provided by EHS.

- c. **Chemically contaminated Sharps:**
- Green sharps container.

**2) Who purchases the chemical waste containers?**

- Liquid waste containers are purchased by the laboratory.
- Solid lab trash boxes are provided by EHS.
- Green sharps containers are provided by EHS.

**3) Why is there a size limit on the liquid waste containers?**

- The crew is manually picking up the liquid chemical waste container and pouring it into a 55-gallon drum. If we exceed the volume limits per container listed above then the crew would not be able to safely consolidate the waste.

**4) Are my liquid waste containers triple rinsed/cleaned out before they are returned to the lab?**

- No, the liquid waste containers are not rinsed out.

**5) How do I get my chemical waste picked up?**

- A chemical waste pick-up request form must be submitted through the University's webforms by midnight on Monday. The form can be found at:

<http://www1.udel.edu/ehs/waste/chemical-waste-pick-up.html>



**6) When do chemical waste pick-ups occur?**

- Routine chemical waste pick-ups occur every Tuesday.

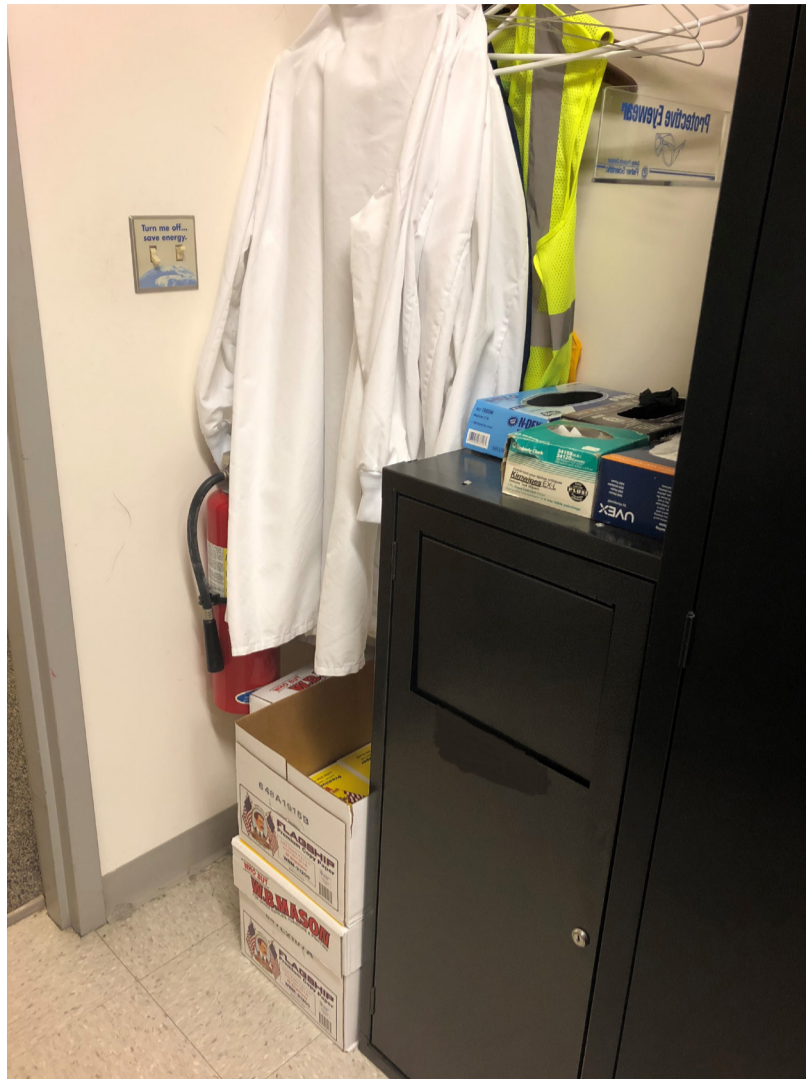
**7) Why was my waste not picked up?**

- There are a few reasons as to why we were unable to pick up the waste:
  - The door to the lab was locked.
  - The phone number on the request form was called, but no one answered. A cell phone is a preferred number to put on the request to ensure that we can reach you in case we cannot get into the lab.
  - The EHS crew was unsure which container to pick up. We request that labs apply a sticker or note to the specific container that the lab is requesting to have picked-up per that request.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Environmental Health & Safety Assistant Chemical Hygiene Officer, Brian Miani at 302-831-8288.

# Fire Hazards on Campus

*They can happen in any Lab.*



Blocked fire extinguisher's are a common fire hazard in the laboratory setting

A recent fire safety survey of campus buildings has found one common fire hazard that can easily be overcome; poor housekeeping. In most cases the poor housekeeping involves overloading storage areas. In many cases the occupants didn't realize just what they were storing and why. Another common finding is building users gaining access into electrical rooms and mechanical rooms/areas that are not permitted for storage. These spaces are assigned to Facilities Maintenance and Operations for upkeep of the building utilities. Please discontinue this practice if you're currently doing so. With the warmer months of spring rapidly approaching, perhaps it's a good idea for a little spring cleaning of your areas. Feel free to contact EHS Fire Safety Group at [fire-safe@udel.edu](mailto:fire-safe@udel.edu) for assistance and ideas.

## EHS would like to hear from you!

We encourage all members of the UD community to submit safety improvement ideas on campus.

You may submit ideas that impact your personal safety here on campus or the safety of the greater community.

Your participation will help raise safety awareness in our community!

Please submit your safety concerns/ideas via email to [dehsafety@udel.edu](mailto:dehsafety@udel.edu)

