AEDs in University Departments

In many places on campus you will see automatic external defibrillators, or AEDs, mounted on the walls. These units are used in the event of a cardiac arrest to try to restart the heart. The sooner an AED is used, the better the chances for the patient’s survival. EHS has a list of AEDs on campus available at http://www.udel.edu/ehs/generalhs/aed-locations.html.

All of the University Police vehicles as well as the University Ambulance carry AEDs. Many departments or buildings also have units now. Along with having a unit, however, come certain requirements in order to be able to use it properly in an emergency. Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) inspects most of the units on a monthly basis, while a few departments have made arrangements with EHS to do the inspections themselves and send the reports to EHS. This ensures that the unit is operating properly and all of the equipment is present and the batteries and pads have not expired.

In addition, the most important thing someone can do to help save a life is to be trained in CPR and AED use. If a unit is present in a building or department, there must be trained individuals in that building during operation hours. CPR/AED training is available through EHS. There are monthly sessions available; the schedule is available on the EHS webpage. In addition, a department can arrange for EHS to provide a training session at their location if they have at least 6 students.

For more information on CPR/AED training, or about the AED program, please contact EHS at 831-8475 or dehsafety@udel.edu.