

2023 Highlights

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

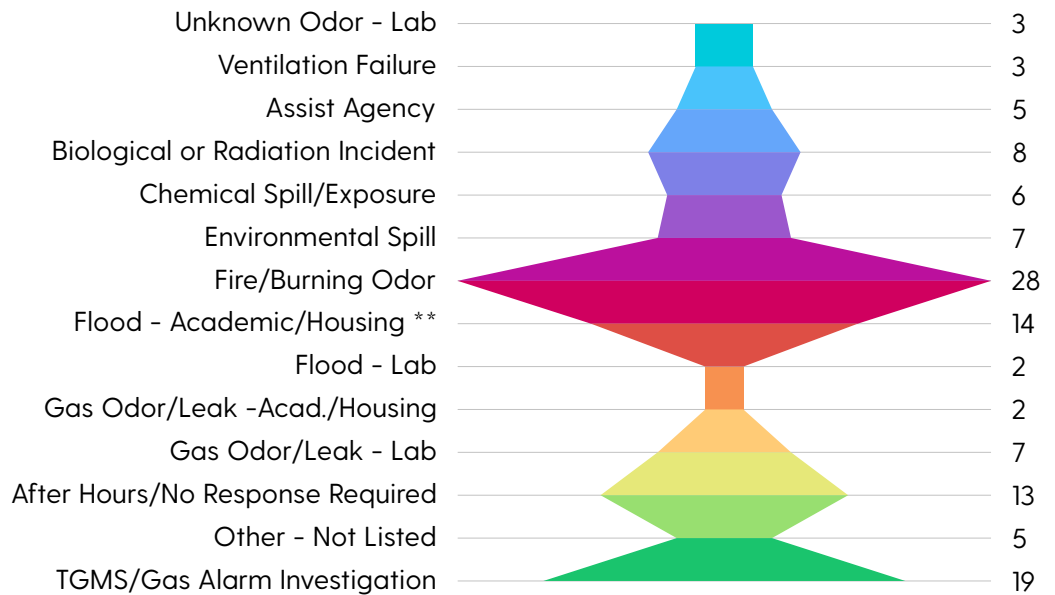


UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

2023 Emergency Response Incident Type

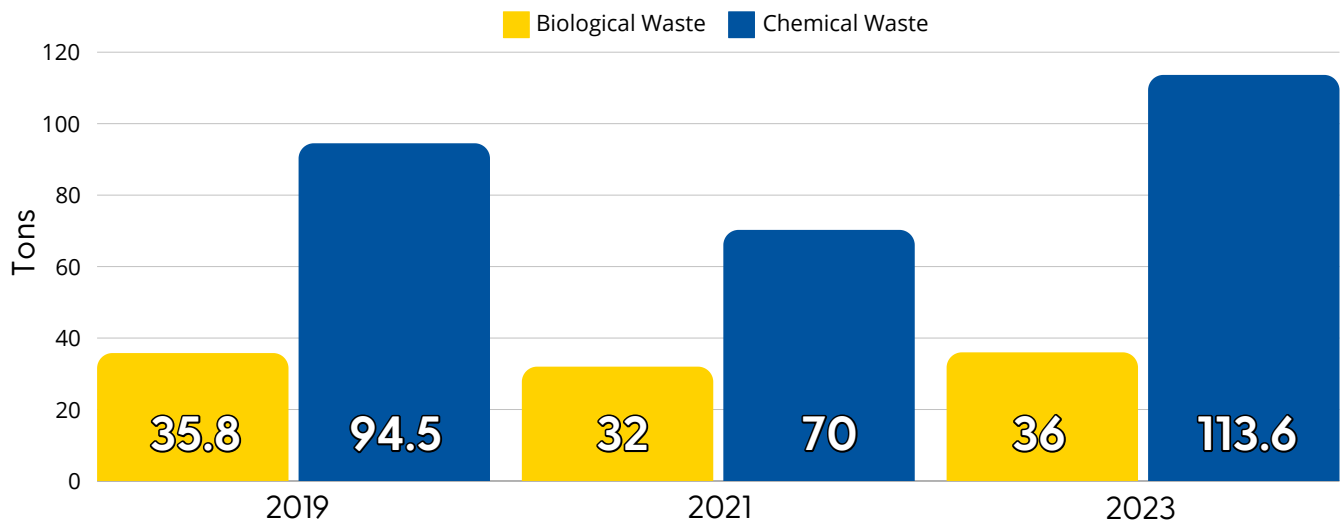
EHS Emergency Response

EHS staff managed numerous emergency incidents every year. 2023 had slightly less incidents than 2022, but was consistent with the numbers seen prior to the pandemic. Of the 122 incidents, 61 occurred after normal business hours. In addition, EHS investigated an additional 174 Indoor Air Quality and flood events in 2023.



**After Hours Events Only

Waste Management - Biological & Chemical



↑ Increase in hazardous waste generation since 2019 - **30.82%**

Our mission is to support and promote a culture of safety, environmental protection, and regulatory compliance through leadership and awareness.

BY THE NUMBERS 2023



Biosafety

Bloodborn Pathogen (BBP) Users - **1788** Biological Users - **1264** rDNA Users - **290**
BBP Permits - **80** Bioreregistrations - **140** USDA Permits - **19** rDNA Registrations - **97**
Biosafety Cabinet Certifications - **280** Units

Medical Monitoring



297 People in Medical Monitoring Program
354 Respirator Fit Tests Performed
(including 43 Nursing Students)
60 People in the Hearing Conservation Program

Construction/Maintenance Safety



2385 Hot Work Permits
62 Lockout/Tagout Requests
517 Confined Space Permits

Fire



192 Building Inspections
201 Fire Drills with over 11,000 Participants
215 Special Event Permits
5 Safety Inspections for Student Theatre Productions

Radiation

Inspections

33 Radiation
17 Xray
27 Laser

Registered Users

15 Radiation
26 Xray
42 Laser



Chemical



315 Labs/PIs with Chemical Hazards
337 Lab Inspections by EHS
2563 Active Chemical Users
2676 Inspections of Fume Hoods, Gas Cabinets, Canopy and Local Exhaust Points

Environmental Programs



6 Reports to Federal & State Agencies
4 Registered Emergency Generators
90 Emergency Generators Documented for DNREC
6 Opacity Observations
300 Units Managed for Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures
2 Smoke Observation Certificates
26 Lead Inspections
103 Asbestos Inspections



QUICK FACTS



139,859 Total Trainings Completed in SciShield



144 AEDs Maintained



137 Safety Committee Meetings



604 UD Personnel Certified in **73** Classes



18 Student Injuries
173 Employee Injury/Illness Reports



HAPPENINGS IN EHS

Disposal of TATP Explosive Chemical 2/8/2023

On February 8, 2023, Environmental Health and Safety was notified by a research group that the researchers inadvertently produced approximately 20 grams of a shock sensitive explosive chemical in Lammot duPont Laboratory. The Delaware Department of Natural Resources, along with the Delaware State Police Explosive Ordinance Division (EOD), investigated the materials and determined that the safest way to eliminate the material was to have the EOD remove it from the building and detonate it. Lammot duPont Laboratory, Brown Laboratory, Drake Laboratory, Memorial Hall, Alison Hall, and Morris Library were all evacuated out of an abundance of caution. The EOD team removed the materials from the building and transferred them to a safe location on the South Green, where they were inactivated. EHS worked with the responding agencies throughout the process to safely remove the material.



Growth in EHS Department

During 2023, EHS was approved for five additional staff positions. We were fortunate to expand the department with an Education and Training Designer, Data Analyst, and Fire Protection Generalist. The other two positions were not filled by the end of the year. This is the first growth in EHS in about 10 years, and allows EHS to improve training materials, provide further fire safety inspections and drills, assess the compliance with maximum allowable quantities of chemicals on campus, and better evaluate other safety compliance data for future planning.



Outreach and Social Media Presence

EHS established an Outreach Committee in 2023. Through their hard work, at least 12 Pop Up Events took place on campus, providing an opportunity for the UD community to meet EHS members and learn more about the services provided. EHS also hosted its 2nd Annual Safety Day at AP Bio in September. In addition, EHS has established a presence in the social media arena. The department has sites on Facebook, Instagram, and X. Please follow us on your favorite platform!

