



EHS Bulletin

November 2017

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Holiday Decorating Tips

As the holiday season approaches we know that faculty, staff and students will want to decorate for the holidays. We have put together some helpful tips to ensure that we can celebrate the holidays safely.

- Decorations may not obstruct an exit, exit sign, doorway, fire extinguisher, fire alarm pull station, smoke detector, heat detector or sprinkler head. Decorations shall not be hung from the ceiling. Ceiling mounted decorations can become entrapment/entanglement hazard that can effect occupant egress.

- All decorations must be made of noncombustible material or treated with a flame

retardant. Decorations that are treated must have a label attached by the vendor. Because of their combustible nature, fresh cut trees, cornstalks, leaves and hay may not be used as decorations inside all campus buildings.

- All electrical decoration must have a UL listing tag attached and follow the manufacturer's recommendation on lengths and number of strands to be plugged into each other.
- Artificial trees are permitted in areas that do not block exits, exit signs or other emergency equipment.
- The burning of candles is not permitted at any time on campus.
- Electrical cords (either extension or light cords) may not be placed across or through doorways, under carpets, in walkways or exit paths. The opening and closing action of a door and people walking over the carpet will damage the cord.
- All electrical decorations must be unplugged when the office closes in the evening or when the building or office is unoccupied.



Who is Environmental Compliance?

The Environmental Compliance program, located within the Environmental Health and Safety department, is committed to reducing pollution and environmental risks for the University and protecting the surrounding community.

We strive to be an example of environmental stewardship, provide protection of natural resources and quality of life, while maintaining a productive academic and research work environment. Through this commitment, Environmental Compliance supports the University's mission to advance knowledge and enrich lives.

The Environmental Compliance program is here to provide advice, awareness of best practices, and promote partnerships among members of the University. These efforts can continuously improve the environmental compliance process internally and foster dedication to lifelong learning about sustainability practices for the good of OSU affiliates across the globe.

Continuous improvement is accomplished by proactive monitoring and evaluating of the practices implemented within the overall Environmental Compliance program and the related groups that support environmental risk management and University environmental sustainability.

Some of our primary areas of involvement are:

- Managing University hazardous wastes
- Supporting air quality compliance efforts
- Response to faculty and staff regarding pollution and other environmental related inquiries

Office Safety Assessments

EHS is offering Office Safety Assessments by request. These assessments are intended for individual offices and meeting areas that would not normally be assessed during a routine building review. A few of the areas assessed include doors, exits, floors, ceilings, electrical, and general housekeeping. If you would like to schedule an assessment fill out the request form and email to ehs@okstate.edu.

Current Events

Bloodborne Pathogen Training

1st Monday of the month, 9-10 am or 2-3 pm

EHS Conference Room, 003 UHS

Required annually for members under OSHA's standard.

Registration: Email name to chemicalsafety@okstate.edu

Respiratory Protection

1st Tuesday of the month, 8:30-9:30 am

FM North Building, Room 101c

Required annually for members who wear respiratory protection.

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu

Fire Safety w/ Hands-on Extinguisher Training

2nd Friday of the month, 9:00-10:00 am

EHS Conference Room, 003 UHS

Come join us for fire safety education featuring the BullsEye laser training device.

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu

Monthly Employee Training

3rd Thursday of the month, 9:30-11:30 am

EHS Conference Room, 003 UHS

Topics: Hazcom; Fire Safety; Slips, Trips, and Falls; Office Safety; and Back Safety

Registration: Email name to ohsp@okstate.edu