

Blowing Smoke



Smoking at OHSU

Smoking is only allowed on OHSU property in specially designated areas. These areas are located outside of buildings.



Throughout campus you will see signs that help identify areas where smoking is allowed and where it is not. No Smoking signs are red and can be found in areas such as bus stops and around hospitals and clinics buildings.

Green signs are located in areas where smoking is allowed.

Last autumn, the Multnomah County Health Department passed an ordinance that prohibits smoking within at least 20 feet of any hospitals in Multnomah County...this includes us! This ordinance was passed to protect staff, patients and visitors from being exposed to second hand smoke.

OHSU employees have been asking what they can do to ensure that OHSU policy is followed. If you have

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Shared Successes

The following are interesting progress notes from SafetyTeam members' activities:

- Stretchers are being left out in the corridors on the 5th floor of the OHSU Hospital, where they block fire doors and fire exit routes. Management of this area was notified to remedy the situation.
- A SafetyTeam member expressed concern that employees may bump into each other while crossing paths in perpendicular hallways on the 14th floor of Hatfield Research Center. A request was submitted to Facilities Management to install mirrors so that employees can anticipate oncoming traffic!
- Wear and tear on our common areas, like the 9th floor atrium in the HRC, cause flooring to wear down, crack and break. Uneven walking surfaces may cause trips and falls. Several areas were identified by a SafetyTeam member, and Facilities Management was asked to fix the broken floor tiles.



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Topic of the Month

This month's safety focus topic is a discussion of:

Driving OHSU Vehicles.



OHSU makes vehicles available to employees in departments such as Facilities Management and Logistics to allow them to do their jobs. All users of OHSU vehicles should know that they are expected to drive them in a safe manner, including:

- Comply with all State and Federal laws.
- Maintain a driver's license and safe driving record.
- Adhere to speed limits and follow instructions on regulatory signage.
- Wear seatbelts.
- Yield right-of-way to avoid an accident.
- Secure all loads and contain hazardous cargo.
- Give driving your full attention, and minimize distractions of radio, cell phones, and eating.
- Do not drive under the influence of alcohol or attention-altering drugs.
- Watch for bicyclists and children in the road.
- Yield to pedestrians.
- Avoid vehicle movements that might provoke "road rage" reactions from other drivers.
- Take periodic rest breaks to reduce fatigue.
- Report mechanical concerns immediately and remove the vehicle from service when unsure. Call the Motor Pool (503 494-8395) or your supervisor for support



- Follow all departmental vehicle use policies.

You should always give your vehicle a Pre-Trip Inspection that confirms the operation of all major systems:

- Lights, including head-, running-, and back-up lights.
- Brakes, including foot and emergency brakes.
- Seat adjustment
- Mirror adjustment, interior and exterior.
- Tire condition.
 - Fluids, as appropriate.

Sometimes accidents are unavoidable and do happen. In this case, you MUST do ALL of the following:

- Fill out a DMV accident report (in the OHSU vehicle glove compartment) and submit it to Risk Management (Mail Code:L328).
- Immediately call the police (911) for all accidents occurring off-campus.
- Report on-campus accidents to Public Safety (4 -4444).
- Notify your supervisor as soon after an accident as possible.
- Notify Risk Management (503 494-2451) within 24 hours of the accident.

If you have questions about driving any OHSU vehicle, notify your supervisor. Environmental Health & Radiation Safety has information about defensive driving courses for those departments considering offering such training.



Questions?

Environmental Health & Radiation Safety
503 494-7795



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any concerns about people smoking in No Smoking zones, OHSU Public Safety has been tasked with enforcing OHSU policy. They can be reached by calling 4

-7744.

Another concern was raised over where smokers dispose of their cigarette butts. In each smoking area there are receptacles for disposal. These receptacles are the only approved method of disposal, as lit butts, especially during the hot, dry summer, can cause a fire if disposed of in the wrong place. If you smoke, please continue to be diligent in disposing of butts in the correct place.



OHSU has two policies that relate to smoking : “Tobacco Use”, and “Tobacco-Restricted Environment,” which can be found in the OHSU Policy Manual.

Please keep the following in mind when smoking or directing others at OHSU:

1. Smoking is allowed at OHSU **only** in designated smoking areas.
2. Smoking is not allowed within at least 20 feet of the hospitals’ doorways, windows or air intakes.
3. All butts should be disposed of in the proper receptacles.
4. Report all concerns or questions to OHSU Public Safety: 4-7744.

Want to Kick the Habit?

The OHSU Wellness Program can help you with your fitness and health goals. You can contact them by calling:

503-494-WELL

Also visit the American Lung Association for more information:

www.lungusa.org

Q of M Answer!

Last month’s Question of the Month was from the Focus Topic, “**Molds and Indoor Air Quality.**”

The question was, “**Mold needs 2 main things to in order to grow. What are they?**”

The answer is : Mold and other fungi need moisture to grow. Moisture in the form of rain, humidity, or flooding can give mold enough moisture to grow. Other factors that contribute to mold growth are temperature, food and light. Each type of mold prefers different levels of moisture, light, temperature and food to grow. That’s why we see different types of mold grow in different places.

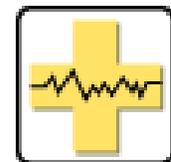
If you have concerns regarding mold in your work area or just have a question, please call Environmental Health and Radiation Safety at 4 -7795.

Thank you to everyone who participated! If you answered correctly, you earned 1 SafetyPoint! Contact Kristine Abrahamson at 503 494-0215 for answers to your questions.

What do those colors mean anyway?

If you want to know what the current threat level is to OHSU, look no further than the Ozone Homepage! The color of the plus sign, with the words “Emergency Response” underneath, will tell you quickly what the threat level is:

Green = No Threat
Yellow =Elevated Threat
Orange = High Threat
Red = Severe Risk to OHSU



If you’d like to know more, just click on the colored PLUS sign on the OZONE!

<http://ozone.ohsu.edu/emergency/>



Slow down in Construction Work Zones!

SAFETYNEWS

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Question of the Month

The question of the Month is designed to challenge your safety knowledge and give you a chance to earn some cool, free stuff!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH



List 3 characteristics of someone who is driving in a safe manner.

Write your answer to the question in the appropriate box on your SafetyTeam Member Update form. Correct answers to this month's question will earn 1 SafetyPoint.

If you are not currently a SafetyTeam member and would like to participate, contact Kristine Abrahamson, SafetyTeam Coordinator, at 503 494-7795.

OHSU

OHSU includes four schools; two hospitals; numerous primary care and specialty clinics; multiple research institutes; and several public service and outreach units. OHSU is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.

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