

UT Martin Environmental Health & Safety – Safety Procedure

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/15/86, REVISED: 09/14

1. INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE -- HOUSEKEEPING

The University, through its custodial and HVAC staff, strives to keep all building occupancy spaces free from airborne and surface hazards. Housekeeping standards are set by the Facilities Management staff and weekly inspections are made by the custodial supervisors. Temperature control is maintained by the HVAC staff. Filters in all air-handling systems are changed on a periodic basis. All exhaust systems, including fume hoods, are checked for adequate air flow. All work areas that produce potentially hazardous fumes have independent exhaust fans or exhaust manifold systems.

Trash is emptied from all buildings to exterior containers on a daily basis. The University contracts with an outside contractor for trash removal to an off-site location.

The custodial staff uses germicidal cleaners when cleaning and disinfecting water fountains and restroom facilities. An effort is made to keep water in all sanitary sewer traps in order to keep sewer gas fumes from entering the buildings. The custodial staff will control vermin (such as roaches and rodents) by using poisons, traps or aerosols that can be administered without a license. Areas such as public food vending concession stands are inspected by the State Health Inspectors, and all vermin control is done by a licensed exterminator on a scheduled basis. The custodial staff strives to control wasp nests, etc., in and around building structures. When necessary, licensed exterminators will fumigate areas for insect control.

The University's water supply comes from the City of Martin. Their system is inspected and sampled daily. All buildings and water terminal areas have backflow preventers and vacuum breakers to prevent contamination of our domestic water supply.

2. ASBESTOS CONTROL

The University functions under the regulations as set forth by EPA-40CFR Part 763-Asbestos Containing Materials for Schools. While it is difficult to establish exact procedures on campus compliance, the University's Facilities Department will:

- A. Survey all facilities to ascertain the location and identification of all friable asbestos containing materials.
- B. Ensure that no construction or renovation takes place in the vicinity of such materials so as to disturb or cause an increase in fiber emission.
- C. Test all occupied areas where asbestos materials are present to check on compliance with the EPA standard.
- D. Repair areas where damage has occurred to asbestos-containing materials to reduce danger to the environment.
- E. Work toward total removal or encapsulation within budgetary constraints and environmental controls.

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3. HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTROL AND REMOVAL

The University has surveyed every department on campus that produces a hazardous waste as identified by the State Division for Solid Waste Management. The identified wastes were categorized into two areas: (1) those that could be effectively and appropriately neutralized and flushed into the sanitary system, burned, or disposed of on-site, and (2) those that have to be disposed of commercially.

Each department producing a hazardous waste must be cognizant of hazardous waste disposal regulations and be responsible for the prudent collection of those wastes. All waste so generated must be inventoried, appropriately labeled, and quantified prior to any collection activity. Pick-up of hazardous waste will be arranged at the site of generation.