EH&S Services During Holiday Closure

UC San Diego (excluding the hospitals and clinics) will officially close for the holidays from December 24, 2011 through January 2, 2012. EH&S will operate with a minimal staff and services will be curtailed during the closure. See the EH&S Holiday Closure Safety Guide on page 2 for details.

New Assistant Fire Marshal Joins UC San Diego

Brian Heyman joined EH&S as Assistant Fire Marshal in September. Brian brings years of public and private fire protection experience to the campus.

Brian last worked for Southern California Edison managing fire protection in SCE’s 50,000 square-mile territory. Prior to that, he was Chief Fire and Life Safety Officer for Division of the State Architect, overseeing plan and construction review for California public schools.

At UCSD, Brian is primarily responsible for fire inspections in existing campus buildings in accordance with State Fire Marshal regulations. He was recently appointed as a Designated Campus Fire Marshal through a memorandum of understanding between the Office of the State Fire Marshal and UCOP.

Brian looks forward to partnering with safety coordinators across campus. Contact him at (858) 534-3659, or by e-mail at bheyman@ucsd.edu.

Campus Housing Fire Safety Report

UC San Diego’s Annual Campus Housing Fire Safety Report is online at http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/firesafetyreport/. The 2008 federal Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires UCSD to annually report the fire safety practices and standards used by on-campus student housing. This report reflects a period that spans the 2010 calendar year.

Learn more about UCSD’s fire safety policies on Blink at http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/firesafety/.

Deck the Halls Safely

Decorating the workplace for the holidays? Think safety when you decorate. Follow the guidelines for safe holiday decorating on Blink at http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/holidec.

UCSD’s Fire Marshal reminds us that decorative materials are not permitted in exit corridors and must not obstruct exit signs, fire alarm pull stations, fire extinguishers, sprinkler heads, or hose cabinets in any area. Best locations for your decorating talents are reception areas, lobbies, break rooms, and foyers.

Used Batteries in Campus Mail? Yes!

All used batteries are hazardous waste. Use Campus Mail Services to send small, UCSD-generated batteries to the EH&S Environmental Management Facility for proper disposal. It’s easy as 1-2-3:

1. Cover the terminals with plastic non conductive tape (Scotch® tape or electrical tape) to prevent the possibility of spark.
2. Place the batteries in a sturdy bag or container. Limit the package weight to 2 pounds or less. (Call the EH&S Environmental Management Facility for bigger, heavier battery pickup: 858-534-2753)
3. Address the package to “Used Batteries” at Mail Code 0958.

Note: Due to regulatory restrictions, only campus and SIO (La Jolla), UCMC Hillcrest, and Thornton Hospital may send used batteries through Mail Services.

Learn more about battery disposal at UCSD on Blink at http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/battery.
Space Heaters Need Space

Portable electric space heaters present a greater fire risk than central heating systems because they tend to be closer to combustible materials, and require a more direct role by occupants in maintenance and operation. Use of space heaters at UCSD is discouraged (but not prohibited).

If you’re keeping your toes toasty with a space heater, follow these guidelines for heater selection and safe use:

Select one with safety features
- Buy only heaters with the Underwriter’s Laboratory (UL) safety listing.
- Look for a safety switch that automatically turns off the heater if it’s knocked over. Some newer models also have infrared or proximity sensors that turn the heater off when objects, children, or pets come too close.
- Opt for an appliance power cord with a 3-prong plug.

Use it properly
- Plug the heater directly into a 3-prong wall outlet. Do not use 3-prong adapters.
- Never plug the heater into extension cords or power strips due to their risk of overheating and possibly catching fire.
- Keep combustibles and flammable materials at least 3 feet away from the heater.
- Do not place anything on top of your heater. Never use it for drying clothes or any other materials.
- Do not place anything (carpet or rugs) on top of the cord that could cause it to overheat.
- Do not use space heaters in wet conditions.
- Unplug space heaters when the room is unoccupied.

Visit Birch Aquarium for the holidays

Hot Work Safety Program
http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/hotwork

“Hot work” refers to operations that are capable of initiating fires or explosions. Hot work includes (but is not limited to): welding, brazing, arc cutting, grinding, soldering, oxygen cutting, hot riveting, heat treating, powder-actuated tools, sandblasting, thermal spraying, and torch down roofing.

UC San Diego’s Hot Work Safety Program describes requirements for performing hot work during maintenance and construction activities.

The program applies to all UCSD employees, students, and volunteers whose activities involve hot work at UCSD. The program does not cover use of candles, laboratory activities, pyrotechnics or special effects, and cooking equipment.

Questions? Contact an EH&S General Safety specialist at (858) 534-7513 or gensafety@ucsd.edu.

EH&S Holiday Closure Safety Guide

During the official 2011 holiday campus closure, December 24, 2011 through Monday, January 2, 2012, EH&S will operate with a minimal staff and services will be curtailed. See information about EH&S services below.

Emergency or Hazardous Material Spill Response – Call UCSD Police (858) 534-HELP (4357). EH&S maintains at least 2 staff members on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. Campus dispatchers will text on-call EH&S staff to assist with your request. Typical items include report of personal exposure to chemicals, hazardous spills, and pest management calls.

EH&S Services Lab – Closed during the official campus closure December 26 through January 2. Service resumes on January 3, 2012.

Hazardous Waste Collection – There will be no collection of hazardous chemical and radioactive waste from research facilities during the week of December 26 through December 30. Normal collections resume Tuesday, January 3, 2012.

For biohazardous waste, should your storage area require collection services, please contact EH&S staff through the UCSD Police dispatcher: 858-534-4357.

Report Work-Related Injury or Illness – Report work-related injuries immediately with the online Occupational Incident Report form at http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/injuryreport, or call the 1-800 Reporting Line at 877-6UC-RPRT (877-682-7778).

Pest Control – Call (858) 534-4534 or e-mail ehspest@ucsd.edu. Pest Management staff will be available for emergency pest control services.

Happy Holidays from Environment, Health & Safety!