

Maverick Safety Matters

Environmental Health & Safety

SPRING 2023

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& S

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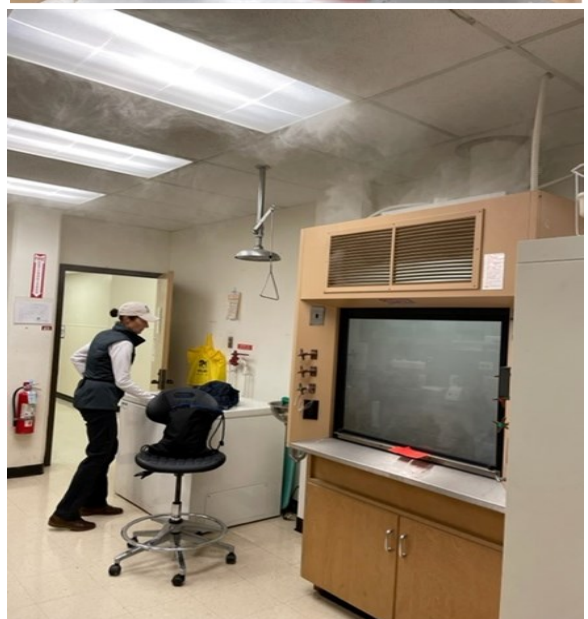
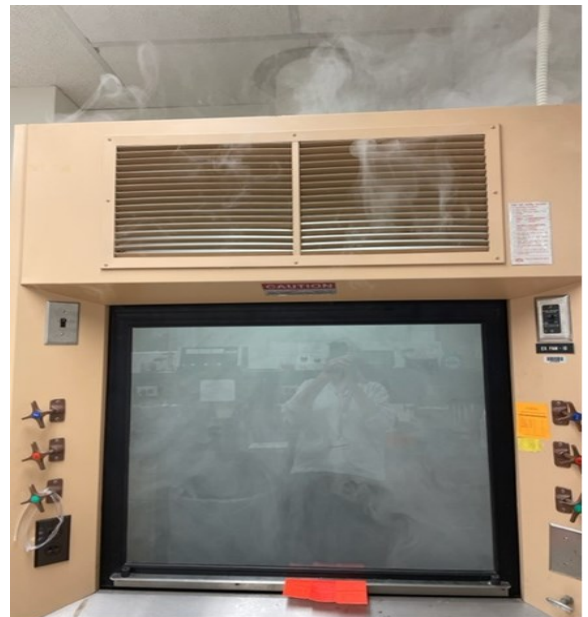
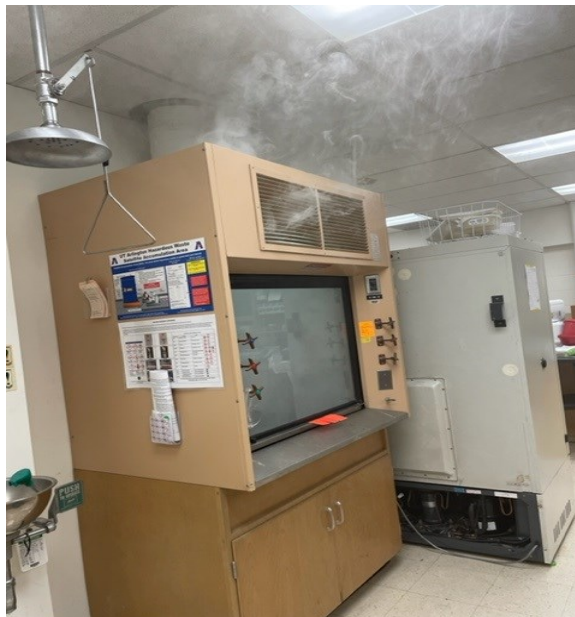
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Fume Hood Smoke Tests Performed in Life Sciences

Fume hoods are designed to protect people who work with chemicals that may produce hazardous gases and vapors. Airflow pulls dust and fumes away from where the worker stands. Testing after installation and at regular intervals afterward verifies hoods are working as intended. At UTA, every chemistry lab has a fume hood testing procedure that is done in a standardized and systematic manner.



EH&S Chemical Specialist Elisabeth Rowlett and Building Facilities Manager Cameron Taylor conduct fume hood smoke tests in three Life Science laboratories.

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Lithium-Ion Battery Safety

Lithium-ion batteries supply power to many kinds of devices including smart phones, laptops, e-scooters and e-bikes, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and even cars. If not used correctly, or if damaged, these batteries can catch on fire or explode.

The problem

- These batteries store a large amount of energy in a small amount of space.
- Sometimes batteries are not used the right way; batteries not designed for a specific use can be dangerous.
- Like any product, a small number of these batteries are defective. They can overheat, catch fire, or explode.

Safety Tips

- Purchase and use devices that are listed by a qualified testing laboratory.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Only use the battery that is designed for the device.
- Put batteries in the device the right way.
- Only use the charging cord that came with the device.
- Do not charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
- Do not keep charging the device or device battery after it is fully charged.
- Keep batteries at room temperature when possible. Do not charge them at temperatures below 32°F (0°C) or above 105°F (40°C).
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire.

Signs of a Problem

Stop using the battery if you notice these problems: odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises. If it is safe to do so, move the device away from anything that can catch fire. Call **9-1-1**.

Battery Disposal

- Do not put lithium-ion batteries in the trash.
- Recycling is always the best option.
- Take them to a battery recycling location or contact your community for disposal instructions.
- Do not put discarded batteries in piles.

Charging an E-bike

Charge your battery in a flat, dry area away from children, direct sunlight, liquids, tripping hazards, and in a location where the e-bike is not at risk of falling.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**
The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards



UNIVERSITY OF
TEXAS ENVIRONMENTAL
ARLINGTON HEALTH & SAFETY

EH&S Contract Specialist Grace Sauce Retires

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Grace Sauce retired on October 31, 2022 after 29 years of service at UTA. Grace fulfilled a very important accounting role in the EH&S department. She was very diligent in managing our department's financial landscape and developed very valuable relationships with our vendors. She was also very instrumental in training new EH&S employees on their individual department financial responsibilities. Grace will truly be missed in the EH&S department. We wish her all the best in retirement.



Flowers and balloon arrangements to celebrate Grace's retirement.



EH&S Staff Members

Check out
EH&S on
Facebook
to keep up
with all our
events &
training:

[UT Arlington
Environmental
Health & Safety
Office](#)



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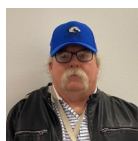
New Platform for EH&S Training Courses

EH&S has adopted a new platform for training. All EH&S online training courses will now be located in the Chemical Environmental Management System (CEMS). This system is a comprehensive resource for all EH&S training courses and will streamline the registration process significantly. Kudos to everyone involved in this transition. Please visit our website for instructions on the new registration process for EH&S training courses. <https://www.uta.edu/campus-ops/ehs/training/index.php>. The link to the new EH&S training site is <https://cems.uta.edu/>.

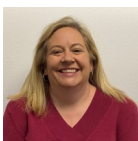
EH&S Welcomes New Staff Members



Jordan Feder joined EH&S as the new Hazardous Waste and Chemical Safety Specialist. Jordan manages the hazardous waste program here at EH&S and also brings a wealth of knowledge in assisting with chemical safety on campus. We're happy to have you, Jordan!



Jeffrey Omspaugh joined EH&S as the new Fire Safety Coordinator. He supports our Fire and Life Safety Program. Jeffrey has already proven to be a great asset to this department and we wish him great success at EH&S. Welcome to our team, Jeffrey!



Amanda Young joined EH&S as the new Administrative Assistant II. Amanda was a previous employee at UTA and has returned for a second run. She joins her husband who is also a current UTA employee. Amanda has already made a great impact at EH&S in her short time here. Welcome aboard, Amanda!

EH&S TRAINING COURSES

Online safety training is located on the EH&S training management website: <https://cems.uta.edu/>

Bloodborne Pathogens for Laboratory Research Personnel
Bloodborne Pathogens (Non-Research)
BioSafety Level 2
On-Site Biohazardous Waste Management
Vaccinia Virus
Laser Safety
Radiation Awareness
Radiation Producing Machine
Hazard Communication & Waste Mgmt- Academic
Hazard Communication & Waste Mgmt- Non-Academic
Fire Alarm Device

Back Injury Prevention
Confined Space Entry Awareness
Hand & Power Tool Safety
Hearing Conservation
Lockout/Tagout
Respiratory Protection
Class C Underground Storage Tank
Defensive Driving Awareness
12 & 15 Passenger Van
Powered Industrial Truck (Forklift)
Hot Work Safety

Call us at 817-272-2185 to schedule specific trainings not available online:

Radioactive Materials Fire Extinguisher Respirator Fit Testing Hands On PIT (Forklift)
The [Great Escape with Fire Extinguisher Training](#) and [Evacuation Chair](#) in person trainings are offered on a bimonthly basis. [Click here for the schedule](#). Please call to sign up for a date.

DRIVING UTA VEHICLES

Defensive Driving Awareness - This online course must be completed every 3 years to remain an authorized driver of UTA vehicles. Additionally, an individual driving record check (MVR) must be updated annually.

12 & 15 Passenger Van Training: Take the online course first. A behind-the-wheel driving test is also required and will be conducted at the EH&S office, 500 Summit Ave. Drivers must have already passed the Defensive Driving Course and have a current approved driving record check (MVR) to attend. Click the link below to schedule a date and time.

[EH&S Booking Site for 12 & 15 Passenger Van Training](#)