

**EHS & Risk Management
Emergency Management
Campus Fire Marshal
Occupational Safety
Laboratory Safety**

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1 Travel Insurance

TSUS has contracted with On Call International's Travel Risk Management Programs to support the international activities of faculty, students, and staff. On Call has helped institutions of higher education take a proactive and holistic approach to not only managing travel emergencies when they arise, but also planning for and event preventing them before they happen.

On Call coverage includes:

- Medical & Security Evacuations
- Medical Expenses & Hospitalization
- Prescription Replacement
- Ambulance Transportation
- Loss of Personal Belongings
- Loss of Checked Luggage

Contact EHS & Risk Management to register an international trip and

qualify for these comprehensive risk management programs.

2 State Fire Marshal

The Texas State Fire Marshal has scheduled a campus-wide inspection for the week of May 9th through May 13th. A team of 4 inspectors will conduct the inspections.

Cardinal Village was last inspected on October 30, 2017. The campus was inspected October 8, 2018.

EHS & Risk Management asks the Lamar Community to help prepare for the upcoming inspections. In 2018 the following issues were identified:

- 38 extension cord violations
- 6 space heater violations
- 16 power strip violations

This month's newsletter, as well as April & May, will discuss ways to prevent these violations.

3 Paint Disposal

Paints are a commonly used chemical type, which serve to keep our buildings and materials safe from corrosion and looking good. However, these materials can cause environmental damage, personal hazards, or legal action if users dispose of them improperly. To appropriately dispose of paints, follow these steps:

-Identify the kind of paint that you are using: the labels should indicate whether it is latex-based, oil-based, or an aerosol.

-For latex paint or an aerosol, acquire a large piece of plastic or cardboard. Find a well-ventilated area away from flames, pets, children, or expectant mothers (the

fumes can be toxic at high concentrations, so don't allow such concentrations to build up, or allow sensitive personnel near them), and pour or spray the paint in a thin (half inch or less) layer on the plastic or cardboard, and allow it to dry. This may take up to a week. Repeat the process until all the paint is completely dry. You may then dispose of the cardboard or plastic as regular landfill waste.

-For oil-based paint, which retains larger quantities of hazardous materials after evaporation, contact the Hazardous Waste Coordinator at nmacy@lamar.edu. He can arrange for the material to be disposed of at the smallest possible expense. If you cannot complete the method described for latex and aerosol paints, he can also help dispose of latex and aerosol paints.

4 6 Cs of Compressed Gas Safety

Cap the cylinders whenever they aren't in use. To prevent breakage of regulators, turning the compressed gas cylinder into a rocket, any cylinder that comes with a cap should have that cap firmly affixed whenever it isn't in frequent use, and at all times that it isn't firmly affixed to a stationary object. On that note,

Constrain the gas cylinder whenever it isn't in use, affixing it to a stationary object with a chain, cable, or purpose-built gas cylinder belt. This prevents it from falling over and taking unnecessary damage.

Clear the area around the cylinders, so that you can avoid slips and trips. Slips and trips increase the risk of a leak, and

obstruction may delay your escape in case of a leak. Don't handle compressed gases in a confined space, as a gas release may replace the air within that space.

Check the safety data sheet for any other hazards that you must be aware of. Several gases have further hazards that may require additional protection.

Collect the cylinders in safe areas, away from physical hazards such as vehicles, door, or forklifts, and in groups of similar gases. Gases with different hazard profiles usually should be separated by at least 20 feet.

Cart the cylinders from place to place, using an appropriately-sized hand truck. Never move a gas cylinder for a long distance without appropriate tools.

For more information, please consult the Chemical Hygiene Plan or the Safety Manual on the EHS & Risk Management website.

5 Health & Safety Manual

Section 12.0 of the [Health & Safety Manual](#) offers the following electrical safety guidelines:

- Many times it is necessary to use extension cords or power strips (surge protectors) to reach a work area or to provide additional outlets. It is important to protect cords, follow the manufacturer's recommendations, and not overload the outlets.
- Extension cords are for temporary use (defined as an 8-hour workday or less).
 - Unplug and properly store cords when not in use.
 - Install permanent code-compliant

wiring for long term use.

- Extension cords or power strips must be plugged directly into a wall receptacle – no daisy chaining of extension cords, power strips, or any combination is permitted.
 - Extension cords should be used for portable equipment.
 - Extension cords and power strips should be examined regularly for damage and removed from service if damage is found.
 - Extension cords and power strips shall be FM or UL listed and should be equipped with over current protection.
 - Extension cords shall not be run above ceiling or under carpet or other similar materials.
 - Extension cords or power strips should not be used inside fume hoods.
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