

Randall Hedge
Ex-Officio Member, Chair
(920) 424-1009
hedge@uwosh.edu

Dawn Dettlaff
Nonrepresented Classified Staff Member
(920) 424-1869
dettlafd@uwosh.edu

Buckley Fechter
Student Member
fechbt19@uwosh.edu

Anna Filipova
Faculty Member
(920) 424-0037
filipova@uwosh.edu

Kim Freier
Represented Classified Staff Member
(920) 424-2082
freier@uwosh.edu

Charles Hermes
Nonrepresented Classified Staff Member
(920) 424-3466
hermes@uwosh.edu

Stephanie Krueger
Student Member
kruegs88@uwosh.edu

Joseph LeMire
University Police Chief
Administration Ex-Officio Member
(920) 424-1212
lemirej@uwosh.edu

Pamela MacWilliams
Director of Student Health Center
Ex-Officio Member
(920) 424-0425
macwillp@uwosh.edu

Dana Merriman
Faculty Member
(920) 424-3076
vaughan@uwosh.edu

Michael Morrissey
Campus Hazardous Waste
Ex-Officio Member
(920) 424-3426
morrissm@uwosh.edu

George Paul
Represented Classified Staff Member
(920) 424-0377
paul@uwosh.edu

Evan Schwalbe
Campus Safety Officer
Ex-Officio Member
(920) 424-4484
schwalbe@uwosh.edu

Rae Ann Wetzel
Represented Classified Staff Member
(920) 424-3202
wetzelnr@uwosh.edu

Jonathon Wilson
Academic Staff Member
(920) 424-0385
wilsonjo@uwosh.edu

Christopher Stratton
Academic Staff Member
(920) 424-1201
strattonc@uwosh.edu



Environmental Health and Safety Committee

Volume #6 May, 2012
A newsletter for and about safety at UW Oshkosh

From a Member of the Environmental Health and Safety Committee

"I have joined the UWO Health and Safety Committee because it provides a forum for discussion of student, faculty, and staff health and safety concerns. Being a member of that committee allows me to engage in true collaborative dialogue and initiatives that target ways to improve our workplace environment. It also provides me with the opportunity to communicate with colleagues on significant and pressing campus issues immediately and to educate them on the use of better health and safety measures."

~Anna Filipova

So, How'd We Do?

The tornado drill that happened on April 19, 2012 went OK.

After feedback from people in various buildings we were able to determine that we have some work to do on campus. Some people were not sure where to go, some thought a warning was going to be issued, others because of "Campus Warning" system issues, didn't know we were in a "Tornado Watch". We discovered that we need to get "Evacuation" plans in all the buildings.

I would like to thank those who gave us feedback on the drill and encourage everyone to get involved with making UW Oshkosh a safe place for all.

Sun Safety Tips

Insect Repellants reduce sunscreen's SPF by up to 1/3. When using a combination, use a sunscreen with a higher SPF!

Over exposure to the sun's harmful rays can result in sunburns which increase your risk of developing skin cancer. Therefore, check your local UV Index which provides important information to help you plan your outdoor activities in ways that prevent overexposure to the sun. The [UV Index forecast](#) is issued each afternoon by the National Weather Service and EPA.

Seek the shade whenever possible! The sun's UV rays are strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. so remember the shadow rule when in the sun: If your shadow is short it's time to abort and seek the shade!

Don't be deceived by color or cost of Sunglasses! The ability to block UV light is not dependent on the darkness of the lens or the price tag. While both plastic and glass lenses absorb some UV light, UV absorption is improved by adding certain chemicals to the lens material during manufacturing or by applying special lens coatings. Always choose sunglasses that are labeled as blocking 99-100% of UV rays. Some manufacturers' labels will say "UV absorption up to 400nm." This is the same thing as 100% UV absorption. Look before you choose!

Sunburn doesn't only happen during the summer! Water, snow and sand reflect the damaging rays of the sun, which can increase your chance of sunburn. Protect yourself year round by using sunscreen with protection from both UVA and UVB rays, and an SPF of 15 or greater. Wear protective clothing, such as long-sleeved shirts, pants, a wide-brimmed hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen on the exposed areas of your skin whenever possible! **Block the Sun, Not the Fun!**



. U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission Warns: Summer Fun Brings More Emergency Room Visits

WASHINGTON, D.C. - For many Americans, summer means fun in the sun. The kids are out of school, adults are on vacation and it's time for outdoor activities like riding bikes and hosting barbecues. However, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) warns that summer also is the time of year consumers are most likely to be injured.

More than 3.7 million consumers went to hospital emergency rooms with product-related injuries in June, July and August 2001. During that summer, about 836,000 more consumers suffered product-related injuries than in January, February and March 2001. To avoid becoming a 2002 statistic, CPSC advises everyone to enjoy summer activities with safety in mind.

CPSC Summer Safety Tips

One of the best ways to stay safe this summer is to wear a helmet and other safety gear when [biking](#) (pdf), [skating](#) (pdf) and [skateboarding](#) (pdf), and when [riding scooters](#) (pdf), [all-terrain vehicles](#), and horses. Studies on bicycle helmets have shown they can reduce the risk of head injury by as much as 85 percent.

Use layers of protection to prevent a [swimming pool](#) tragedy. This includes placing barriers completely around your pool to prevent access, using door and pool alarms, closely supervising your child and being prepared in case of an emergency.

Never bring [charcoal grills](#) indoors. Burning charcoal produces deadly carbon monoxide

When cooking outdoors with a [gas grill](#), check the air tubes that lead into the burner for any blockage from insects, spiders, or food grease. Check grill hoses for cracking, brittleness, holes, and leaks. Make sure there are no sharp bends in the hose or tubing. If you ever detect a leak, immediately turn off the gas at the tank and don't attempt to light the grill until the leak is fixed. [Newer grills](#) and propane tanks have improved safety devices to prevent gas leaks.

Make sure your [home playground](#) is safe. Falls cause 60 percent of playground injuries, so having a safe surface is critical. Concrete, asphalt or packed dirt surfaces are too hard. Use at least 9 inches of wood chips or mulch.

Use softer-than standard baseballs, safety-release bases and batting helmets with face guards to reduce baseball-related injuries to children.

If you are a soccer mom or dad, beware that [movable soccer goals](#) can fall over and kill children. Make sure the goal is anchored securely at all times and never allow anyone to climb on the net or goal framework or hang from the cross bar. Remove nets when the goals are not in use.

To prevent serious injuries while using a [trampoline](#), allow only one person on at a time, and do not allow somersaults. Use a shock-absorbing pad that completely covers the springs and place the trampoline away from structures and other play areas. Kids under 6-years-old should not use full-size trampolines.

Don't allow a game of hide-n-seek to become deadly. CPSC has received reports of numerous suffocation deaths involving children who crawled inside [old cedar chests](#), [latch-type freezers and refrigerators](#), [iceboxes in campers](#), [clothes dryers](#) and [picnic coolers](#). Childproof old appliances, warn children not to play inside them.

If summer plans include camping and you want heat inside your tent or camper, use one of the [new portable heaters](#) that are equipped with an oxygen depletion sensor (ODS). If oxygen levels start to fall inside your tent or camper, the ODS automatically shuts down the heater before it can produce deadly levels of carbon monoxide (CO). Do not attempt to use alternative sources of heat or power to warm a tent or camper. Traditional camping heaters, charcoal grills, camping lanterns, and gas generators also can cause CO poisoning.

Install [window guards](#) (pdf) to prevent children from falling out of open windows. Guards should be installed in children's bedrooms, parents' bedrooms, and other rooms where young children spend time. Or, install window stops that permit windows to open no more than 4 inches. Whenever possible, open windows from the top - not the bottom. Also, keep furniture away from windows to discourage children from climbing near windows.

Summer also means [yard work](#). When mowing, keep small children out of the yard, and turn the mower off if children enter the area. If the lawn slopes, mow across the slope with the walk-behind rotary mower, never up and down. With a [riding mower](#) (pdf), drive up and down the slope, not across it. Never carry children on a riding mower.

