



# SAFETY INSIGHTS

News and Awareness Information from Environmental Health & Safety



## WEATHERING THE STORM



## Winter Home Heating Hazards

- Home heating equipment is the leading cause of home fires in the United States during the months of December, January & February, when nearly 48% of all home heating equipment fires occur.
- Prior to the annual heating season equipment should be inspected and serviced annually by a qualified technician.
- Combustible and flammable items should be a minimum of 3 feet away from all heating equipment, including furnaces, fireplaces, wood stoves and space heaters.
- Store cooled ashes in a tightly covered metal container, and keep it outside at least 10 feet from your home and any nearby structures.
- Create a three-foot kid free zone around open fires and space heaters.
- Space heaters should be UL or ETL listed, plugged into an electrical outlet directly (no extension cords) and include a tip over safety switch.
- Always have working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in the home and test them in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.
- Always have an emergency escape plan, and practice fire drills in the home.



**Put a Freeze on Winter Fires**

**Be Fire Smart with Electric**



## Laboratory Safety Update

The [6<sup>th</sup> edition of CDC/NIH Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories \(BMBL\)](#), which lays the foundation for safe biological practices in laboratories, has been published and can be downloaded for free.

[Laboratory Registration](#) is an important and required step to ensure safety and compliance with regulations. It is used to identify the hazards, determine appropriate and necessary training for all laboratory personnel, and facilitate in emergency response preparations. Principal Investigators are required to register their laboratories with EH&S. Please click here to access the [Laboratory Registration System](#).

[Lab Safety Website](#)

## Annual review of injuries for SUNY Stony Brook.

**(This includes Campus, Hospital and LISVH)**



Overall, there was a decrease in the number of recordable cases on Main Campus from 2019 to 2020, likely due to the limited activity because of the COVID-19 pandemic. There was an increase in lost days in all areas predominantly due to COVID-19 exposures and other injuries (e.g. slips, trips, falls and ergonomic injuries) where employees did not return to work as quickly as they may have during "normal" times.

EH&S continues to raise awareness, encourage reporting, and investigate injury causes. For example, injury data is shared with supervisors and training is tailored to address specific concerns. University Hospital Leadership conducts a daily morning Safety Huddle at which staff injuries are reported and discussed. There are also various committees that focus on Sharps Injury Prevention, Safe Patient Handling, Workplace Violence Prevention and Safe Resident Handling.

### **All injuries and illnesses must be reported:**

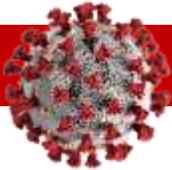
- State: [Accident Reporting System \(ARS\) Procedures](#), [State Employee Injury/Illness Report](#)
- RF: [Research Foundation Work-Related Employee Injury/Illness Incident Report](#)
- Minors/Students: [Student Accident/Injury Report](#)
- Hospital Employees: [Stony Brook Medicine Injury/Illness Report](#)

# NEED TO REPORT AN EMERGENCY?

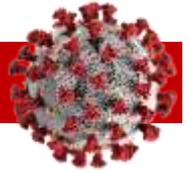


**To Report an Emergency call University  
Police at 333  
or 631-632-3333**

**COVID Questions? Click Here**   **Emergency Management Website**



## *EH&S COVID-19 CORNER*



### Things to Know about COVID-19

- Some people with COVID-19 feel fine & some feel bad.
- Some people with COVID-19 get very sick & some in different ways.
- People with other health problems may get very sick.

### Protect Yourself from COVID-19

- Stay at least 6 feet away from people outside your home.
- Stay away from people who are sick.
- Wear a mask to protect everyone.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water.
- Wash your hands for 20 seconds.
- Use hand sanitizer if that is all you have.
- Rub the hand sanitizer all over your hands.

## Meet the Staff



Please join me in welcoming one of our newest evening Fire Marshals; Peter Nardella. Peter started in August 2020 and is a welcome addition to the 24/7 Fire Safety Department. Peter is a local Setauket Volunteer Fire Fighter and EMS in West Islip. He brings multiple years of experience and has been able to acclimate to the University setting, even during the Pandemic. Some of Peters hobbies include working on his new car and Hiking the Adirondacks.

**"We Care About Safety... People - Science - Education - Medicine – Environment"**

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