



NOVA SOUTHEASTERN
UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Environmental Health and Safety Department

Nova Southeastern University | 7501 SW 36th Street, Davie, FL 33314

EHS Annual Report

2017

From the Director

Welcome to the second annual report of the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). This serves as our tool for communicating the safety culture of our campus as well as the activities and accomplishments of the department. Customer service is an everyday value which drives our mission.

Providing a safe work environment and complying with regulations continue to be our main focus while striving for an increased campus profile and fiscal responsibility. One significant illustration of this effort would be the first NSU Safety Fair held in June with over 400 faculty and staff coming out to hear safety presentations and see demonstrations. We were also able to present the first NSU Safety Award. The entire event was executed without any cost to the institution due to support from exhibitors. Additionally, this year EHS took over responsibility for the Radiation Safety Program.

As a team, we take great pride in our accomplishments and efforts toward the health and safety of the Nova Southeastern University community. We hope you find this annual report helpful and recognize this as a limited snapshot of EHS programs. Safety is the responsibility of every member of the NSU community, and we look forward to partnering to advance our initiatives further in 2018.

Beth Welmaker | **Director**

Vision Statement

NSU Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) provides expert guidance and timely service to the university community through employing best practices and collaboration.



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About EHS

Mission Statement

Nova Southeastern University is committed to the health and safety of its faculty, staff and students. Nova Southeastern University will promote the development and maintenance of programs to prevent safety and health hazards on our campus. The programs developed shall be compliant with, but not restricted to, all federal, state and local regulations applicable to safety, health and the environment. All university-related facilities, activities and programs shall be designed, conducted, and operated in a manner consistent with applicable safety, health, and environmental programs established by the University.

What We Do

Biosafety

Biological safety provides guidance, assistance and surveillance over research activities involving biohazardous agents, recombinant DNA, bloodborne pathogens, and biohazardous waste management. The Institutional Biosafety Committee monitors registrations for research with biological materials.

Chemical Safety

Chemical safety management has been improved this year with the implementation of CEMS – Chemical Environmental Management System. EHS is able to provide partners this tool for their inventory and much more. EHS has improved its management of chemical waste this year resulting in a significant savings to the university.

Fire Safety & Emergency Response

Fire safety management includes six functions: inspection, enforcement, education, engineering, fire investigation and response. With 40 buildings on campus and a wide range of potential fires safety risks, EHS staff are constantly checking equipment, running test alarms and assessing egress risks.

Radiation Safety

Radiation safety integrates education, oversight, compliance, service and consultation to protect students, staff and the environment. Safety and security of our radioactive materials are accomplished through training, inspection, licensing, registration and controlled access to materials.

Workplace Safety

Workplace safety programs include the areas of respiratory protection, safety training (fall protection, forklift and ladder safety), and construction safety, clinical safety, and medical surveillance.

Inspections

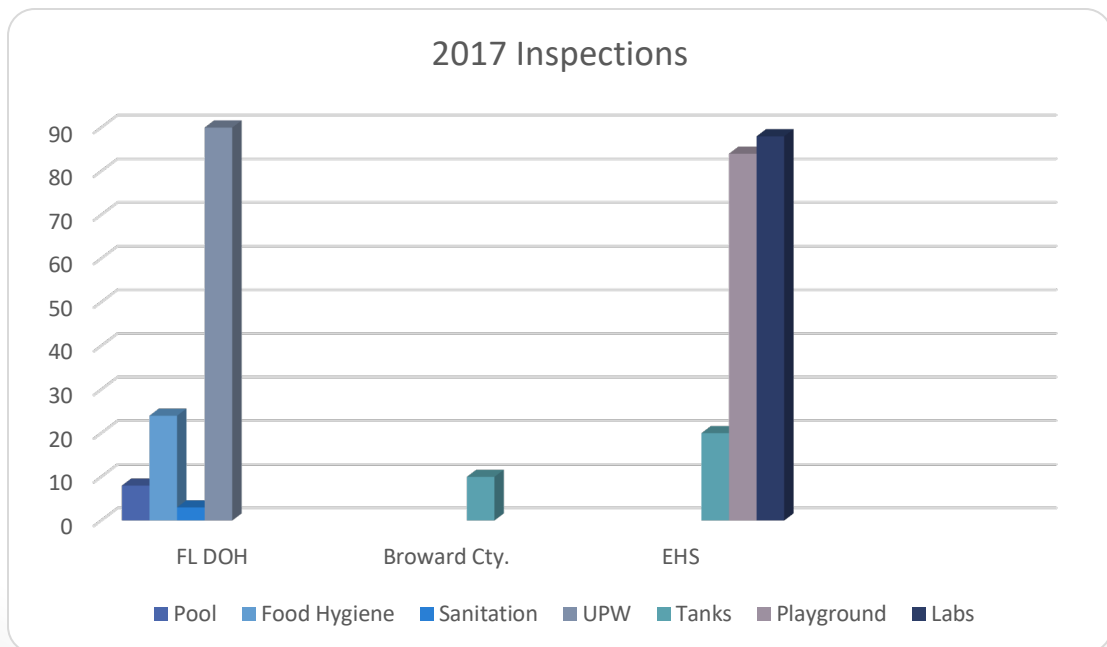
Objective: EHS conducts a vast assortment of inspections to ensure NSU is meeting regulatory compliance objectives in addition to providing a safe environment for work and play.

Metric:

- *Inspect all playground equipment monthly*
- *Inspect laboratories annually*
- *Monthly inspection of above ground storage tanks*
- *Accompany Federal, State and County inspectors during visits to NSU*

Accomplishments:

- *48 Playground Inspections Completed Family Center Village*
- *36 Playground Inspections Completed Lower School*
- *20 Grease Tank Inspections Completed*
- *88 Laboratory Inspections Completed*
- *90 Universal Pharmaceutical Waste (UPW) Inspections*
- *324 Above Ground Storage Tank Inspections (Oil/Diesel)*
- *696 Elevator Inspections Completed*
- *4 Fall Arrest Systems Inspections*
- *24 FL Department of Health Inspections Food Inspections*
- *8 FL Department of Health Pool Inspections*



Training and Education

Objective: To ensure and document NSU employees and students have received health and safety training to increase awareness and prevent injuries.

Metric:

- *Evaluate online training for NSU staff – 2017 goal*
- *Provide in-person training as needed to supplement online training*
- *Communicate with students and staff through email regarding required training*
- *Track employee training*
- *Explore the creation of a Safety Representative at each Satellite Campus*
- *Update and maintain NSU Safety manuals and written programs*

Accomplishments:

- *Conducted Respiratory Protection training for all applicable Physical Plant Staff*
- *Increased online training participation*
- *Surveyed end users to assess opportunities for online training improvement.*
- *Fall protection: trained 25 personnel*
- *Ladder Safety: trained 7 personnel*
- *Forklift: trained 10 personnel*
- *Scissors Lift: trained 10 personnel*
- *Biomedical Waste: trained 87 personnel*
- *Spill Prevention, Containment and Countermeasure: trained 2 personnel*
- *Fire Safety and Lab safety: trained Biology Teaching Assistants and Halmos Professors*



Hazardous Waste Program

Objective: To document efforts to manage all hazardous waste generated on NSU campuses and to manage waste safely; in compliance with all regulations. Efforts made to educate on best methods to reduce waste and costs.

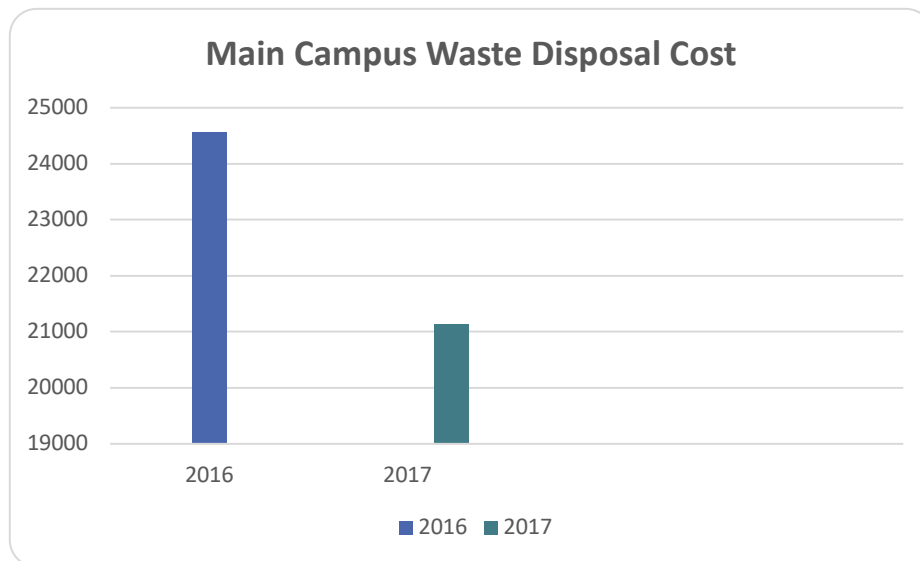
Metric:

- *Communicate with staff through routine newsletters*
- *Provide tips and guidance to reduce waste*
- *Provide labels for the correct labeling of all waste for disposal*
- *Improve hazardous waste management to meet Federal regulations*
- *Consolidate liquid waste to reduce cost*

Accomplishments:

- *Provided labels to all departments for the correct labeling of all waste for disposal.*
- *Bulked liquid waste in drums to reduce cost.*
- *Improved the collection method of hazardous waste on campus to ensure all waste is being handled in a safe manner for employees and the environment.*
- *Established a weekly inspection program for hazardous waste storage room to meet Federal regulations. Inspection tool is utilized by other departments on campus.*
- *Established the 2018 waste collection schedule with the vendor, and published for staff.*

Total expense saved \$3433



Safety Fair and Award

Objective: To increase EHS profile and safety awareness among NSU staff, while providing educational presentations.

Metric:

- Provide 1st Safety Fair for NSU and fully cover all expenses through exhibitor registration
- Provide training presentations
- Measure attendance through raffle participation

Accomplishments:

- 400+ attendees
- >25 exhibitors
- 9 presentations were conducted in front of a live audience
- Mr. Kevin-Andre Billings received first NSU Safety Award
- EHS Educational Display



Biowaste

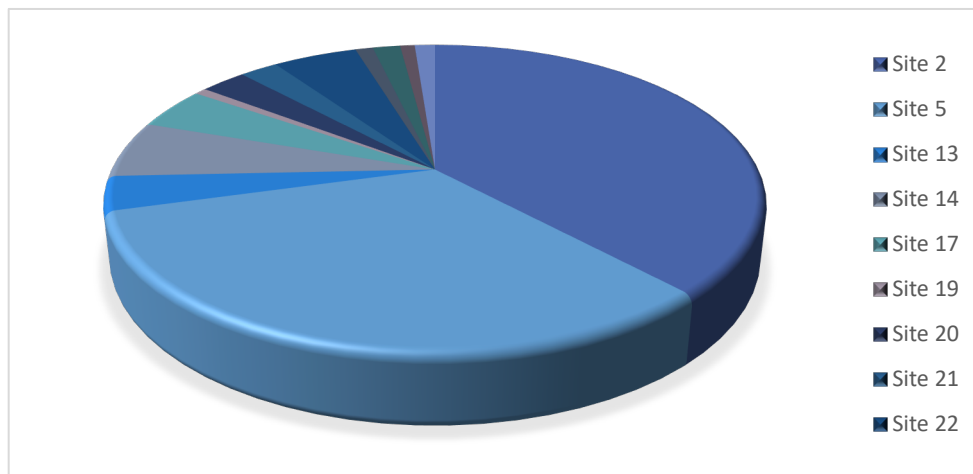
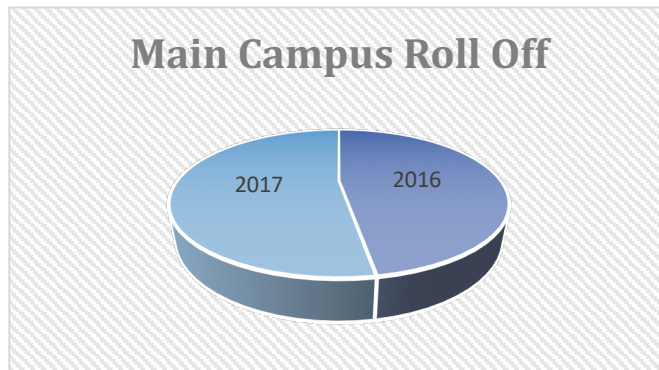
Objective: To document and effectively manage all biological waste (regulated medical waste) generated on NSU campuses. To manage waste safely and in compliance with all regulations. Efforts made to educate on best methods to reduce waste and costs.

Metric:

- Reduce cost of monthly biowaste disposal
- Communicate with staff through routine inspection
- Provide tips and guidance to reduce waste
- Provide labels for the correct labeling of all waste for disposal
- Provide posters at point of generation educating what is handled as regulated medical waste

Accomplishments:

- Distributed 100+ posters to campus locations generating regulated medical waste.
- Trained clinic staff on proper procedures for regulated medical waste handling; including providing live training via Skype for Business.



Biowaste/Regulated Medical Waste Sites

Site 1	Davie Main Campus
Site 2	Medical Clinic NMB
Site 3	Not Active
Site 4	Not Active
Site 5	Plantation (Closed in 2017)
Site 6	Not Active
Site 7	Not Active
Site 8	Not Active
Site 9	Not Active
Site 10	Not Active
Site 11	Not Active
Site 12	Not Active
Site 13	Orlando
Site 14	Cypress Creek
Site 15	Not Active
Site 16	Not Active
Site 17	Fort Myers
Site 18	Not Active
Site 19	Jacksonville
Site 20	Miami Clinic
Site 21	Chronic Fatigue and Immune
Site 22	Wilton Manor Dental Kids

Fire and Life Safety

Objective: To provide the NSU community a safe, secure and protected campus by conducting fire inspections, promoting fire safety, and expanding the fire safety program.

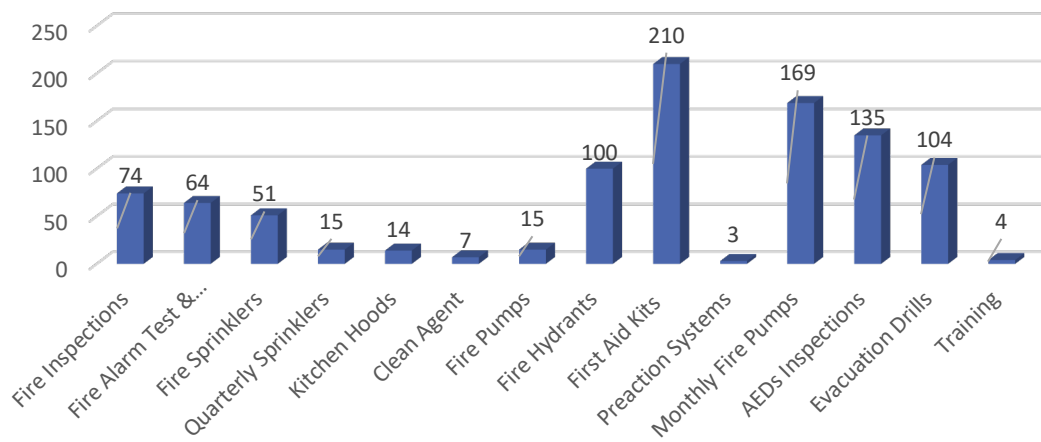
Metric:

- Conduct Evacuation drills in all NSU buildings.
- Provide fire and life safety training to the NSU community.
- Conduct fire inspections to identify and correct problems/violations that may lead to a fire.
- Ensure that all fire suppression equipment is maintained and inspected as required by fire code.
- Prepare fire report for the annual Cleary Report.

Accomplishments:

- Conducted 74 fire inspections.
- Conducted 64 fire alarm annual test and inspections.
- Conducted 51 annual fire sprinkler test and inspections.
- Conducted 6 quarterly fire sprinkler inspections.
- Conducted 14 kitchen hood semi-annual inspections.
- Conducted 7 Clean Agent Suppression inspections.
- Conducted 3000 fire extinguisher inspections.
- Conducted 15 annual fire pump test and inspections.
- Conducted 100 fire hydrant inspections.
- Conducted 210 annual first aid kits replenishments.
- Conducted 3 pre-action system inspections.
- Conducted 169 monthly fire pump runs.
- Conducted 135 annual AED inspections.
- Conducted 4 fire safety trainings
- Conducted 104 evacuation drills

Fire and Life Safety



Radiation Safety

Objective: Radiation safety services oversees safe use of radiation producing isotopes, lasers, and devices on campus. This includes various inspections, radioactive material waste pick-up, decommissioning items, and decaying in storage (DIS).

Metric:

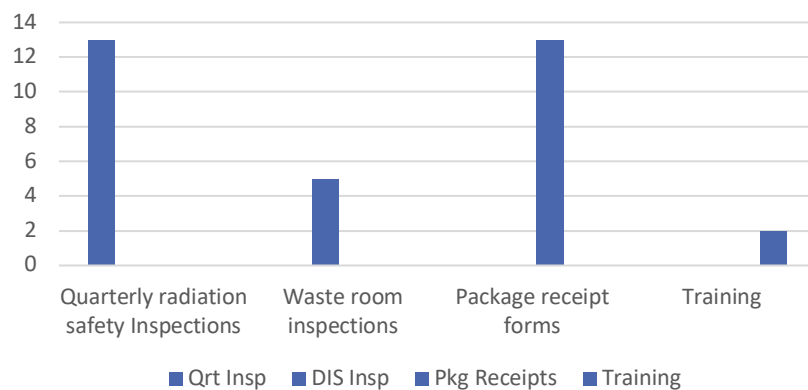
- Conduct quarterly inspections of all main campus labs that use radioactive materials (RAM).
- Check radioactive materials packages for contamination.
- Conduct frequent radioactive materials waste pick-up to reduce amounts of RAM stored in labs.
- Decay RAM waste in approved centralized storage to reduce expensive off-site disposal costs
- Manage all radioactive materials forms including usage, package requests, and training

Accomplishments:

- License amendment approved to add a radioactive waste decay-in-storage site and radioactive material labs in CCR
- Conducted 13 quarterly inspections for HPD building.
- Provided 12 waste containers to labs for proper waste storage
- Conducted 5 radioactive waste storage inspections using meters and wipe surveys
- Trained EHS team member and student on proper RAM waste handling
- Created an inventory of all NSU meters and probes



2017 Radiation Safety Inspections



EHS Team Committee Involvement

- *Construction Meeting*
- *EHS BOA*
- *HPD Healthcare Safety Meeting*
- *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)*
- *Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)*
- *Radiation Safety Committee (RSC)*
- *University Safety Committee*

EHS Permits/Licenses

- *(12) Health Department Food Hygiene Permits*
- *(20) Health Department Biomedical Waste Permits*
- *(4) Health Department Pool Permits*
- *(5) Health Department Sanitation Permits*
- *(6) Storage tank permits*

Ongoing EHS Focus

Objective: To keep safety relevant and continually engage staff while setting a standard for excellence.

Metric:

- *Provide support and services to offsite operations, staff and students*
- *Develop team knowledge in the area of cGMP*
- *Develop and grow the EHS team*

Accomplishments:

- *This year EHS was realigned to include Fire and Life Safety (2016) and was granted the opportunity to bring onboard an EHS Specialist (2017). With these strategic developments, NSU has strongly established and demonstrated its commitment to Environmental Health and Safety and essentially created the EHS Department. This has been most important with the rapid growth at the Center for Collaborative Research which has highlighted the need for specialized skills within EHS.*

2018 Goals

Objective: To establish a high standard of excellence in safety at NSU through education and assessment of our constituents with the objective of equipping and enabling them to excel.

Goals:

- *Provide respirator training in Spanish; develop in house*
- *Update EHS website*
- *Compare lab inspections from year to year utilizing web-based inspection tool*
- *Continue to improve management of hazardous chemical waste; to include consolidation of waste to reduce disposal costs*
- *Decay short half-life radioactive isotope waste and reduce high cost off-site disposal fees*
- *Review and update all EHS manuals and plans*
- *Implement university-wide chemical inventory management tool*
- *Host second NSU Safety Fair*
- *Provide online training modules that are easy to access and use*



What Others Say... Working Together

"...I think that EHS does an excellent job. I needed advice on a potential project, and [EHS] team were quick, and precise in terms of their advice. In other universities' EHS can often be "hostile" towards PIs. I never got this impression once." ~ **Robert Smith**

"The EHS team provided excellent support on a recent occupational health issue. Our college truly appreciated the efforts and expertise of the EHS team." ~ **Linda C. Niessen, DMD, MPH**

"EHS has been doing a great job supporting the needs of the CCR 6th floor. I want to thank [EHS] for providing [their] time to respond to all inquiries, even if these are at odd times of the day. [Their] quick response allows us to move forward and continue our goals. Thanks for the support and all your recommendations. We look forward to maintaining these ties as we advance into next year's goals and tasks."

"Thank you for the great service."

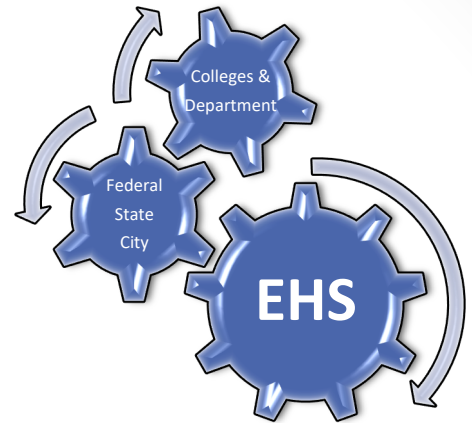
"We have worked with [EHS] on several issues. [They] have knocked it out of the park every time. Tremendous resource." ~ **Michael Kelly**

"We appreciate [EHS] always being available to assist us with our clinical EHS needs. We depend on [EHS] regularly." ~ **Division of Clinical Operations**

"[EHS] visits to the Regional Campuses shows ...the department's support to the health and safety to all throughout NSU's facilities regardless of location. Thank you!"

"Great team to work with as they embody the NSU is One philosophy!" ~ **Dr. Charmaine Beckford**

"[EHS] has been a great assistance. They respond in a timely manner and are easy to approach with all EHS inquiries."



The Nova Southeastern Environmental Health and Safety Department wishes to express their appreciation to Executive Administration and all our university partners for continued support with our mission to promote the development and maintenance of programs to prevent safety and health hazards on our campus.