<u>**Friday, July 18, 2025**</u>

Attendees:

Isabella Ludwig, Mike Costa, Mike Chapman, Callee Daly, Jeremy Heiss, Huitang Zhang, Dan Gorton, Josh Goicoechea, Kiwamu Tanaka, Jonathan Lomber

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Wildfires

- "As wildland fires burn, **different compounds are released in the smoke**, such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, hydrocarbons, particulate matter (PM), benzene, acrolein, and aldehydes.

- **Symptoms and adverse health effects due to smoke exposure varies** from person to person. Some health effects known or suspected to be caused by wildland fire smoke include:
    - Symptoms such as eye irritation, sore throat, wheeze, and cough,
    - Asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) exacerbations,
    - Bronchitis and pneumonia,
    - Adverse birth and cardiovascular outcomes.

- Frequently monitor air quality conditions in the area by visiting the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) US Fire and Smoke Map or the state health department's air quality website.
    - **Relocate or reschedule** work tasks to smoke-free or less smoky areas or times of the day,
    - **Reduce levels of physical activity** when possible, especially strenuous and heavy work
    - Require and **encourage workers to take frequent breaks** in places that are free from smoke, and
    - **Limit the worker's smoke exposure** by making accommodations for that worker to perform his/her duties indoors or in a location that reduces exposure to smoke, if possible." (CDC)

Emergency Washing

- **"The type of chemicals you use at work tells you if you need emergency washing facilities**. Chemicals that could require the installation of an eyewash or other washing equipment include:
    - **Corrosives**. A corrosive destroys living tissue and can include chemicals or substances that are strong acids (pH of 2.5 or below) or strong bases (pH of 11.0 or above).
    - **Strong irritants**. A strong irritant causes an inflammatory reaction, which can include redness, heat, swelling, pain, and loss of function.
    - **Toxic substances**. A toxic substance absorbs into the body and causes personal injury or illness.
- **The potential for exposure to a person's skin or eyes will also tell you if you need an emergency eyewash facility**. An emergency washing facility is required where an employee's eyes or skin could be exposed to these types of chemicals.
- Some tasks involving these chemicals that may require emergency washing facilities include:
    - Pouring, mixing, or diluting chemicals
    - Using spray bottles, aerosol cans, or spray guns to apply chemicals.
    - Cleaning up spills.

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- **You can avoid needing emergency washing facilities**. Simple changes can help you avoid emergency washing requirements including:

  - **Using a safer chemical** that does not require emergency washing equipment.

  - **Using a closed-loop chemical dilution control system** or dispenser where the end-product chemical does not require emergency washing facilities and there is less risk for chemical spills.

  - **Changing work processes** so chemicals are not needed.

- **Emergency washing facilities need to be easily accessible and usable**. The equipment needs to:

  - Take less than 10 seconds to reach and be no more than 50 feet away.

  - **Not ever** be blocked.

  - Have tepid water with a minimum flow rate of 0.4 gallons of water per 15 minutes or more (for eyewash).

  - Have a single valve operation.

  - **Be tested weekly and inspected yearly** (for plumbed facilities)." (WA L&I)

Dates to Remember
- Start of Fall Semester
  - **All Campuses**: August 18th

Next CAHNRS Safety Meeting
August 21st, 2025 @ 1:30PM

Friday, July 18, 2025

WSU Resources	
• [Environmental Health & Safety](#) • [CAHNRS Operations Safety](#) • [Pullman Campus AED Map](#)	• [Compliance for Health & Safety](#) • [Curated Playlist for CAHNRS](#) (Updated Frequently)