PSU Campus Safety Improvements

For more detailed information about the PSU COVID-19 Infection Control Plan and resources, please visit the EHS webpage COVID-19 Safety and the PSU Coronavirus Response website.

Physical Health and Safety Improvements

As part of PSU’s ongoing pandemic response, Facilities and Property Management, Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), and other campus departments have been implementing measures to promote a safe and healthy campus environment.

Cleaning and Disinfecting

Custodial cleaning, including high touch surfaces and active classrooms, continues to be implemented throughout occupied areas of campus. Some unoccupied office suites and classrooms have been cleaned and tagged as not currently in service. If you return to work in one of these tagged areas, contact the Facilities Work Control Center at 2fix@pdx.edu to resume cleaning services.

Facilities has installed hand hygiene stations with alcohol-based sanitizers across campus, including in high-use areas such as building entrances and in or near all active classrooms.

Air Quality

Recognizing that air circulation and filtration are important factors in reducing airborne viruses, PSU modified and enhanced building ventilation where feasible in summer 2020. Following American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) guidance, HVAC filtration was upgraded to MERV-13 level filtration wherever possible. In addition, some buildings were modified to increase the mix of outdoor air in circulation. Refer to the EHS Indoor Air Quality webpage for more information.

To provide added filtration in smaller occupied spaces, PSU purchased portable HEPA air cleaners. Portable units are placed in smaller classrooms scheduled for in-person classes and certain occupied spaces where these types of units are most effective. Requests for portable air cleaners are reviewed by Environmental Health and Safety.
Water Quality

PSU Facilities is following industry best practices and Portland Water Bureau recommendations to maintain safe water in all buildings while occupancy is low. Fixtures in campus buildings are flushed regularly to prevent buildup of bacteria and contaminants. In 2020, PSU tested all campus buildings for legionella to ensure the preventative flushing was effective, and conducted repairs of a few fixtures where issues were identified. Refer to the EHS Water Quality webpage for more information.

Physical Modifications & Signage

Plexiglass barriers have been installed in public reception areas and customer service desks across campus. In open lounges and reception areas, furniture has been rearranged, and extra furniture removed, to promote physical distancing. Signage about mask-wearing requirements, hand hygiene, occupancy limits and physical distancing are posted throughout campus.

Security Measures

Improvements to doors, locks, exterior lighting and access control have enhanced campus physical safety and security during this time of decreased campus occupancy. During the Pandemic, campus buildings are accessible by PSU ID cards, and are closed to the general public.

Facilities and Property Management
202 University Services Building (USB)
503-725-3738

PSU Environmental Health & Safety
EHS-group@pdx.edu
503-725-3738

For comments, questions, or concerns regarding COVID-19 safety, please contact coronavirusresponse@pdx.edu.

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