

FY23 ANNUAL REPORT



We partner with the UW community to provide a healthy and safe campus and protect our environment.

HIGHLIGHTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

COVID-19 response and prevention: With the end of the federal and state COVID-19 Public Health Orders and Emergencies, EH&S transitioned the University's COVID-19 response and prevention efforts to provide sustainable public health guidance and support for reducing risk of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses. This included transitioning from individual contact tracing to community-based guidance for illness prevention.

Reduced unused radioactive materials: Coordinated with the federal Department of Energy, their contractors, local emergency responders, and UW internal stakeholders to successfully remove two unused legacy radiological sources from a Gammacell 40 irradiator on August 5 and 6, 2022; collected, inventoried, packaged, and shipped five packages of legacy uranium and thorium stock containers from Friday Harbor Labs, CENPA, and other research labs to Curie Environmental for recycling, saving the University \$50,000 in disposal costs; recycled five packages containing 35 mCi of legacy C-14 liquid ampoules from a UW principal investigator to American Radiolabeled Chemicals, saving the University \$20,000 in disposal costs.

Emergency response: Coordinated responses to two major incidents to ensure protection of the outdoor environment; a major flood response in a mechanical space of a healthcare facility and management of regulated building materials from a major building renovation; notified the appropriate regulatory agencies and oversaw the environmental protection management; collaborated with University partners to hire the appropriate vendors and ensure the necessary remediation was completed.

Filled critical staff vacancies: After experiencing unprecedented staffing shortages in critical health and safety service areas that began during the COVID-19 pandemic, EH&S recruited and onboarded over 20 new employees in FY23 and has nearly returned to pre-pandemic staffing levels. This included filling positions in the areas of industrial hygiene, physical safety, fire and

life safety, laboratory safety, biosafety, chemical waste collection, and safety training.

Enhanced workplace and research safety: Updated safety and program manuals for [Fall Protection](#), [Respiratory Protection](#), [Radiation Safety](#), [Field Operations Safety](#), [Biosafety](#), [Lab Safety](#) and [UW Accident Prevention Plan](#). The EH&S [Design Standards](#) for new buildings and major renovations were updated. Developed a [focus sheet](#) for preparing and [decontaminating](#) items going to UW Surplus, and guidance for healthcare workers caring for individuals treated with radioactive materials. The [Institutional Chemical and Physical Safety Committee](#) expanded their review of laboratory safety cases to help resolve outstanding issues in 22 laboratories.

Improved and expanded safety training: Offered new and updated safety courses; [Low Voltage Electrical Safety](#) (in-person); Respiratory Protection; Half-Face and Full-Face Air Purifying Respirator (online); N95 Filtering Facepiece (online); Powered Air Purifying Respirators (online); [Outdoor Heat Safety](#) (online); [Bloodborne Pathogens for Non-Researchers](#) (online); laboratory safety courses and hands-on [Chemical Hygiene Officer](#) trainings.

SELECT PRESENTATIONS AND POSTERS

Modernizing Shop Safety with Modern Tools for the EH&S Professional Brett Konzek, Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA) Conference, July 2022

Unique Considerations During a Source Removal Phil Campbell, Cascade Chapter of the Health Physics Society, October 2022

Managing SCUBA and Small Boating Operations, an Overview of an Effective Emergency Management Plan for Field Operations: Will Love, CSHEMA symposium on Field Research Safety, February 2023

Applied Occupational Toxicology: Katia Harb, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, Occupational Toxicology Course (ENVH 516), May 2023

FY23

JULY 1, 2022 - JUNE 30, 2023

44,536 pounds



of batteries transported for recycling

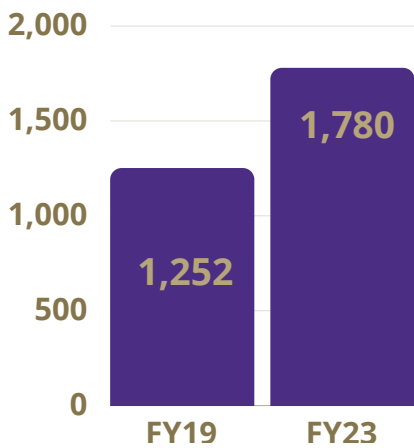
12,353 pounds



of fluorescent light tubes transported for disposal

1,780

Temporary food permit applications processed



42%

increase from pre pandemic years

Provided dive safety oversight to

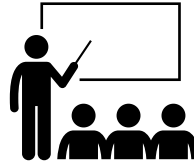
90 scientific divers who conducted

898 scuba dives



17,702

personnel and students completed one or more EH&S safety training courses



Radiation wipe samples taken

4046



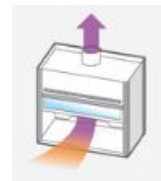
Radiation producing machine assessments

89



Fume hoods tested

1,463



1,366

Laboratory safety inspections

chemical, biosafety, radiation and general



Health screenings

reviewed for personnel who work in an animal care and use environment

1,472



Managed the disposal of over

320 tons

of hazardous waste in



20,477 containers

125



Laser Use Authorizations approved

for research involving Class 3B and Class 4 lasers

72



Cell antenna installations supported

Biological safety cabinets certified

984

Biological Use Authorization applications approved

371

for research involving biological materials

