

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope that you all enjoy the first edition of the bulletin for the new year. A new feature of the bulletin is the minutes of the Wilmington College Safety Committee. Any staff members, faculty members or students who have items of concern they would like to have considered by the committee, can contact any committee member. Names and extensions of committee members follow:

Jack Cunningham	6921
Don Hagermann	6844
Nora Hufe	6838
Tom Hurd	1180
Bill Quinn	6775
Dave Sydnor	6920
Jack Vinokur	6941
Maria Weeks	6918

The bulletin will continue to feature timely, seasonal advice aimed at keeping employees and their families safe and healthy. This month the focus is on driving in inclement weather and cold/flu prevention. I hope you will find the information useful and have a healthy and happy new year.

Winter Driving TV Segment

http://www.delawaretv.com/media/_SafeDriving.wmv



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

UD Searches for Rapist Targeting Students

Educating students on the kinds of safety measures they can take to avoid rape could help make them more difficult targets.

That's just what the University of Delaware did, as police searched for a serial rapist wanted in two attacks and one attempt on students.

Police suspect that the man was a former or current student, because he appeared familiar with the campus and its students, attacking in the early morning hours after weekend parties, according to CBS News report.

To keep students safe, security officers began stopping women walking on campus with men to make sure they actually knew the men accompanying them. They also encouraged students to use the campus escort service.

(Campus Security Report, January, 2007)

Reminder—Campus Security Escort Services

Please remember that campus security officers are always available to escort staff, faculty and students to and from their vehicles. Campus security officers can be contacted by utilizing any of the emergency phones (in grey boxes at most building entrances), red emergency phones located inside buildings throughout campus, or Code Blue phones located in parking areas. Security may also be contacted using the following numbers:

New Castle	325-3333
Graduate Center	685-0313
Dover	233-3400

Cold Weather Checklist



Since the weather has been unseasonably warm this year, many of you may not have prepared for the frigid weather ahead.

- Now is a good time to have your chimney cleaned and your heating system checked. Don't forget to have your air filters changed.
- Check your carbon monoxide and smoke detectors to make sure they are still operable.
- Make sure you and your family have plenty of warm clothing for those outdoor activities and that the snow shovel, scraper, ice melt, etc. are readily available and are in a convenient location.

(From Delaware Safety Council eNews, Jan. 2007)

Equipment and Supplies for Winter Driving

Here's what you'll want to have on hand, especially in an emergency:

Snow Shovel
Scraper with a brush on one end
Tow Chain or Strap
Tire Chains
Flashlight with extra batteries
Abrasive material (cat litter, salt, sand, or traction mats)
Jumper Cables
Warning Device (flares or reflective triangles)

Getting Unstuck

If you find you're stuck, here's what to do:

Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way. Keep a light touch on the gas and ease forward. Don't spin your wheels, you'll just dig in deeper.

Rocking the vehicle is another way to get unstuck. (Check your owner's manual first because it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.

Front-wheel drive vehicles, snow tires should be on the front—the drive axle—for better traction in mud or snow.

(<http://www.nysgtsc.state.ny.us/winter.htm>)

Is Your Vehicle Ready for Winter?

- How is the tread on your vehicle's tires?
- Is the recommended amount of antifreeze in the radiator?
- Is the windshield washer reservoir full?
- If your vehicle has been on salted and sanded roads, have you cleaned off your lights—especially the headlights? If it is too cold to wash them, newspaper works well.
- Will the heater and defroster clear icy and fogged windows?
- Do you have enough gas in case you get stuck in slow moving traffic for a while?

If You Get Stranded...

Stay in the vehicle. Don't wander or get frost-bitten.

Run the engine for heat about once every hour, or every half hour in severe cold. Clean snow from around the end of the tail pipe to prevent carbon monoxide buildup. For extra heat, burn a candle inside a coffee can—but don't set the can on fabric. Make sure the vehicle is NOT air tight, by opening the window a little bit.

Clear out heat vents. That's the grill under the windshield.

Avoid alcohol. It lowers body temperature and will cause you to become drowsy.

Leave one window cracked open. Freezing winds and driving, and wet snow can quickly seal a vehicle.

Signal to other motorists that you're stranded by using flares or flashlights, or by tying a piece of brightly colored cloth to the radio antenna.

'Tis the Season for Sneezin'

Here are five common myths about colds and flu's, along with the facts according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases:



Myth: Take antibiotics.

Fact: Antibiotics don't work at all against viruses. And they only fight existing bacterial infections. They won't prevent infection, so they're not effective "just in case."

Myth: Starve a cold and feed a fever (flu).

Fact: There's no evidence this will reduce the symptoms or duration of colds or flu. But the body always needs adequate nutrition and fluids, especially during the stress of a cold or flu.

Myth: Vaccines prevent colds.

Fact: Vaccines only work against the specific type of flu virus for which they're developed. There is no effective, universal vaccine against cold viruses.

Myth: Take Vitamin C and herbal formulas to prevent or stop colds.

Fact: A variety of vitamin and herbal remedies, such as Vitamin C, Echinacea, and zinc have been tested and have shown encouraging results for reduction of some cold symptoms, but not conclusive results for preventing or stopping colds.

Myth: Bundle up or you'll catch a cold.

Fact: There is no evidence you can get a cold from exposure to cold weather or from getting chilled or overheated. Colds are spread person-to-person or from contact with a surface contaminated with viral particles.

(BLR SafetyWorks, January 2007)

Keeping Kids Cold-Free

Kids in the U.S. can catch as many as 8 or more colds per year.

People become infected with cold or flu germs by touching their mouths, noses or eyes after exposure to contaminated surfaces or the coughing or sneezing of other infected people. So it's no mystery how youngsters can easily pick up bugs.

To protect you and your family from viral germs:

- Be sure everyone washes their hands with soap and warm water often, especially after blowing noses or touching objects that sick people have touched.
- Show kids how to blow their noses gently. Blowing too hard can force infectious matter deep inside ears or sinuses.
- Teach the habit of keeping fingers out of eyes, nose and mouth.
- Disinfect frequently touched items, such as doorknobs and toys with spray or wipe solutions.
- Don't smoke around children. Second-hand smoke increases the chance of catching a cold or flu, worsens or prolongs symptoms, or leads to worse conditions, such as bronchitis or pneumonia.

(Best of Health, Del. Safety Council, Fall 2006)

WILMINGTON COLLEGE
SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 9, 2007

I. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

Present: Jack Cunningham, Don Hagermann, Tom Hurd, Dave Sydnor, Jack Vinokur, and Maria Weeks

II. Review of Incidents:

There were no incidents pending review.

III. New Business:

- A. Jack Cunningham indicated that the Emergency Response Plans prepared by ACS had been delivered. A sample binder was placed before the committee for review.
- B. Jack Cunningham noted that he was also in the process of completing the State of Delaware, Workplace Safety Program Questionnaire. Areas of the questionnaire specific to Human Resources and Maintenance have been provided to Don Hagermann and Bill Quinn, respectively. A copy of the questionnaire was placed before the committee for review.
- C. Maria Weeks noted that she had seen the Minutes of the previous meetings posted around campus.
- D. Dave Sydnor asked if it would be possible to have straight and left turn arrows painted at the top of Fithian Drive. The matter will be explored.
- E. Tom Hurd brought up the issue of students crossing from Kelly Temporary Services to the Wilson Graduate Center. After some discussion, it was noted that students have been discouraged from parking in the Kelly Temporary Services lot. The possibility of signage will also be explored.
- F. Jack Vinokur mentioned that there had been a recent problem with pre-teenage youths being disorderly in the Pratt Student Center. Public Safety is aware of the matter and is investigating the issue.

IV. Old Business:

- A. Don Hagermann addressed the issue of Employee Emergency Information forms and suggested that the matter be mentioned, and participation encouraged at the meetings of the College Coordinating Council and Cabinet. It was also suggested that the CIC could be an access point for employee emergency contact information after hours.

Old Business—Continued

- B. A discussion ensued regarding the posting of Emergency Response Procedures. It was agreed that Emergency Response Procedures be placed in the vicinity of emergency telephones and that the notice consist of the following language:

IF THERE IS A TRUE EMERGENCY

DID YOU CALL 911?

HAVE YOU NOTIFIED SECURITY?

HAS SOMEONE BEEN POSTED OUTSIDE TO DIRECT EMERGENCY RESPONDERS TO THE EXACT LOCATION?

IS SOMEONE WITH THE INJURED OR ILL PERSON(S)?

- C. A discussion was held regarding whether a college representative should accompany ill or injured employees or students to health care facilities. It was generally decided that each case had to be considered on an individual basis. However, it is recommended that in those cases where a college representative does respond to a health care facility, that it be someone of supervisory status.

V. Good of the Order:

- A. Jack Cunningham suggested that the meetings be held on a semi-monthly rather than monthly basis. The members present were in agreement with the caveat that special meetings could be called as necessary.
- B. Jack Cunningham requested that the committee approve having the meeting minutes added in to the Public Safety Newsletter. The committee was in agreement.

It was requested that members of the Committee who receive information on prevention, safety, etc. that they forward said material to the Chair so that it may be considered for the Newsletter also.

- C. Regular meeting dates of the Committee were established as follows:

March 13, 2007

May 8, 2007

July 10, 2007

September 11, 2007

November 13, 2007

VI. The meeting concluded at 10:35 a.m.