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260 Emergency Coordinators protect UNC campus by facilitating safe evacuations, assisting in annual fire drills and lending a supportive environment to others.

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# Safe Passages *Emergency Coordinator* Newsletter

Spring 2015



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Doug Fleming with UNC Life Safety Alarm Shop in the alarm panel test room.

Building Name	Code Violation	Location Details	Comments
Liberty	2nd floor ceiling tiles (2) missing in hallway	Construction Management area	Ceiling tiles have fire rating & must be in place
Liberty	Door to sign removed at 2nd floor level		Sign to stay. Check & find discharge on floor 3
Liberty	Electrical panel #11 knobs loose out post in space	Room 107	Replace bulbs or white light
Liberty	Exit light not working		
Liberty	Electrical box not covered in shop	Carpeting Shop	
Liberty	Exit light at back door not working	Carpeting Shop	
Liberty	Electrical Box knock out missing (connect fuse spacing)	Carpeting Shop	
Liberty	Double wall window in view together in the hall	Carpeting Shop Electrical Box 202	
Liberty	Exit light not working	Room 108	
Liberty	Carpeting not done throughout entire annual measurement	OT carpenters on a job	
Liberty	Exit light not working	Demolition Shop	
Liberty	Electrical box needs cover (2 of them)	Carpeting Shop (2nd floor) Shop	This is the room behind the Carpenter's Shop
Liberty	Electrical boxes need a cover (1 of them)	Mechanical room accessible from outside only	need to back behind room
Liberty	Emergency light needs to be replaced or repaired	Mechanical room accessible from outside only	
Chapel Hill House	House must stay active or have built around post	outside	Make code that prohibits children leaving a pool cover etc
Frank Porter Stadium	Storage cabinet must be back stop of propane storage	Large electrical room 107	Electrical rooms are the responsibility of Facilities to be
Frank Porter Stadium	Overhead light not working	2nd floor electrical closet	work order submitted by Building Ops
Frank Porter Stadium	House knock out missing before installed	Room 108	work order submitted by Building Ops
Frank Porter Stadium	Light bulbs not working	Office 301, hallway at 301, first floor hallway	check all hallways and stairwells also
Frank Porter Stadium	Propane storage (2nd floor)	2nd floor electrical closet	
Wilson Hall	Ceiling tiles have fire rating & must be in place	Room 301, 208	Ceiling tiles have fire rating & must be in place
Wilson Hall	Electrical box needs cover	Automotive Room, Room 201, Room 202	2nd floor
Wilson Hall	Electrical box (24) needs a "knock out" filler	2nd floor telecom room	
Wilson Hall	Missing wires	4th & 5th floor electric closets	Insulated by walls and the cabinets containing conductors
Wilson Hall	Improper combustible storage	Room 401, 401, hallway	Remove the cabinets and combustible storage
Wilson Hall	Improper storage blocking egress paths	Hallway at Room 401, hallway Room 301, 301, 208, 108	Eliminate blocking egress paths
Wilson Hall	Apartment must be unlocked for public access	Room 207	Public building access to apartment
Presbyterian House	Ground fault detectors at table store area with not read	First floor at table entrance	2 table
Presbyterian House	Fire extinguisher not checked before 2015	Apartment storage area	
Presbyterian House	Electrical box needs a cover	Back stairs, basement behind printing	
Presbyterian House	Electrical cabinet needs to be GFCI	Basement and kitchen cabinets	Check apartment also

We take care of safety concerns by compiling a spreadsheet to notify the proper maintenance departments!

# Safety Heats up With State Fire Marshal Visit:

## Will Our Buildings Pass the Test for Fire, Electrical, Building, and Mechanical Safety?

Every year the NC State Building Code Enforcement Officer, Wilson Sawyer walks through all of the UNC buildings to conduct an official fire inspection. In addition to Sawyer's fire inspection which incorporates life safety and NC State Building Fire Prevention code issues, he also looks for electrical, building- (structural integrity of building), mechanical (heating and air conditioning) and plumbing hazards.

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EHS Fire Safety representative, Kitty Lynn accompanied Sawyer on his walk-throughs to make an official report for any corrections that may need to be made, as well as employ the Facilities work-order system for expediency and just to explain to building occupants what can be expected of the traditional fire safety inspection.

Often, people are curious about better methods to motivate people to keep hallways clear and how to keep fire doors closed to prevent the spread of fire and smoke in the event of an actual fire. Fire doors can be identified in several ways.

First, on the inside of the door's jamb, near the upper hinge, the manufacturer places an identification plate that specifies the length of time that door will prevent smoke or fire from entering the uninvolved area. Second, most wood doors provide a standard 30-minute safety net (to escape the burning building) before the door will burn through. Often the identification plate will be painted over (which is illegal) or removed (also illegal). But you can rest assured that if the door opens out into an exit hallway, it should provide some protection long enough to get out.

What are some other fire safety concerns that everyone can be on the lookout for? Exit lights and emergency lights that are burned out. To test these, just push the small button which is usually located on the bottom of the light. If the light does not flash momentarily or stay lit, the bulb may need to be replaced.

This is corrected by turning in a work order on the Facilities website.

<http://go.unc.edu/FixIt>

One other thing that the Fire Marshal looks at (and there are hundreds of possibilities), is over-stacked storage that blocks sprinkler heads from spraying water over a fire that is occurring in the room. A simple fix? Redistribute storage to other

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Will we pass state safety tests? Yes! We'll isolate what needs improvement, make those improvements, and teach safe behaviors as we go. If you need help with safety concerns in your building, let us know.

*Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much.*" --Helen Keller

## Prescribed Burning in North Carolina Botanical Garden Natural Areas



Burn Boss, Johnny Randall reviews the prescribed burn plan with crew before they go to their assigned areas.



The prescribed burn is on the way with the crew installed at different points along the woodlands to prevent the fire from

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The North Carolina Botanical Garden began burning the Coastal Plain and Sandhills Habitat Gardens some 40 years ago as a means to control weeds and to demonstrate to the public that fire is an important ecological process. The Botanical Garden, in 2001, formalized a prescribed burning program in order to use fire in natural areas that contained plant communities that historically burned and that greatly benefit from a regular fire return.

Prescribed burning means that one operates within strict parameters of wind direction and speed, relative humidity, ventilation rate and smoke dispersion, and many other factors. This “prescription” also requires that local neighbors, all local emergency responders, and the NC Division of Forest Resources are notified.

The Botanical Garden burn crew is made up of staff who have gone through NC Division of Forest Resources (NCDFR) S190 and S130 fire training. There is also a Certified Burner, or “burn boss,” who has gone through additional training and is registered with the NCDFR. Other trained participants include individuals from the US Army Corps of Engineers, NCDFR, NC Natural Heritage Program, and The Nature Conservancy.

These fires greatly benefit the native Piedmont savanna vegetation and help to restore a more open oak-hickory woodland. Prescribed fire also reduces the area fuel load, which helps to prevent catastrophic wildfires from lightning strikes or arson. And prescribed fire greatly reduces the number of ticks that harbor a number of

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We obtain burn permits from the NCDFR, who have visited the sites, reviewed and approved our burn plans, and support our management goals. The Chapel Hill Fire Department has observed our burn crew in action and is satisfied that we conduct our prescribed fires in a safe and responsible manner. And each year we file our burn plan with the NCDFR, Chapel Hill Fire Department, and the UNC at Chapel Hill.

Since 2001 we have safely burned over 1,000 acres. Most of these sites are burned on a 2-5 year rotation in order to rehabilitate or maintain the biological diversity of these communities. Our Penny's Bend Nature Preserve in Durham County, for example, contains over 50 rare plants, including the Federally Endangered smooth coneflower, all of which are fire-dependent.

If you are interested in observing, or participating (after necessary training), in our prescribed fires, please get in touch!

-Johnny Randall, Ph.D. Director of Conservation Programs [jrandall@email.unc.edu](mailto:jrandall@email.unc.edu)

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