



Office of Environmental Health & Safety

LAUSD



Key Contact Numbers

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2011-2012
School Year



MISSION

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) is dedicated to providing a safe and healthy environment for the students and employees of the Los Angeles Unified School District. This mission is supported through periodic inspections of existing District facilities, and careful evaluation of all school sites to ensure a school environment that is health-protective and conducive to learning.

Safety matters...

The LAUSD Office of Environmental Health & Safety

The Office of Environmental Health and Safety is comprised of three distinctive units, Safety/Industrial Hygiene, Environmental Programs and Business Services. OEHS administers a wide range of environmental, health, and safety programs including: indoor and environmental air quality, assessment of new school sites, emergency management/response, workplace injury reduction, training for safe work practices, Safe School Inspections, waste recycling, hazardous waste pick-up, design criteria for healthy and sustainable schools, traffic and pedestrian safety, industrial facilities near schools, environmental compliance, drug and alcohol testing, medical surveillance of employees, compliance during asbestos and lead abatement, and testing for lead in drinking water.

VISION

- We are committed to the health and safety of our students, employees, contractors, and communities.
- We actively champion environmentally sound practices and safe behaviors.
- We establish procedures and audits to assess our programs to ensure that we meet best practices and standards.
- We continuously improve our emergency management procedures and practices to ensure the District can effectively prepare for and respond to any emergency.
- We continuously improve our business processes keeping our customers in mind.
- We strive to eliminate injuries, illnesses and adverse environmental impacts to contribute positively to the learning environment.



OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Safety and Industrial Hygiene

OEHS provides support related to occupational safety and health regulatory program compliance, loss control, accident management, workers' compensation cost reduction, industrial hygiene, liability loss control, ergonomic support, safety and industrial hygiene training, traffic/pedestrian safety, asbestos compliance oversight, chemical product evaluation, regulatory agency support and citation management, and equipment approval. OEHS staff works on District-wide design standards and policies, conducts comprehensive analyses of all major Facilities projects, and approves occupancy for new construction and significant site modifications.

In addition to traditional safety and industrial hygiene program management, OEHS staff manages the District's Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), responds to District emergency response situations (e.g. hazardous materials, fires, chemical spills, sewer overflows, vandalism, etc.), provides emergency response training, coordinates the District emergency response equipment inventory, and responds to catastrophic emergencies. In cooperation with School Operations liaises with local, State and Federal emergency management agencies, communicates with District executive management during large-scale emergencies, and conducts post event analyses of District response activities.

Environmental Programs

OEHS provides support related to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance, new construction site assessment and remediation, development and maintenance of site environmental surveillance systems (i.e. methane systems), hazardous/universal waste management, solid waste management, recycling programs, District environmental design standards, storm water compliance, environmental auditing and program compliance, permitting, coordination between environmental regulatory agencies, environmental training programs, and the development and implementation of District-wide environmental compliance and sustainability programs.

OEHS is a nationally recognized leader in coordinating District-wide activities related to environmental site assessment and remediation. OEHS staff works with contractors, Facilities Services Division, and other District staff to coordinate the required provisions of CEQA for new school sites and existing school site modifications, which involves the development of appropriate CEQA documents up to and including Environmental Impact Reports. OEHS staff works with the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), to complete Phase I Environmental Site Assessments, to develop the Preliminary Environmental Assessments, and to develop and manage required site remedial action plans. In addition to new school sites, OEHS staff reviews and supports existing Facilities projects and monitors the ongoing land use surrounding more than 1,000 schools and other sites.

Office of Environmental Health & Safety Facts

In FY 2009-10, OEHS staff has specifically supported school sites, as reflected in the following performance data:

- Conducted 433 routine health and safety compliance inspections at District schools;
- Provided 24-hour response to health and safety-related incidents and complaints in order to prevent injuries, reduce cost, and avoid citations from regulatory agencies; OEHS responded to 321 health and safety complaints, 176 emergencies, 165 traffic and pedestrian complaints and conducted 322 industrial hygiene surveys to address issues such as indoor air quality and ergonomics;
- Provided safety training to District employees to prevent injuries and to comply with regulatory requirements; OEHS conducted 689 safety and health compliance training sessions;
- Conducted inspections at new schools and building additions to ensure that they are safe prior to occupancy by students and staff; OEHS conducted 236 new school and building addition inspections;
- Managed the District hazardous waste program, which included over 980 hazardous waste pick-ups and 4,727 records of hazardous wastes to be removed;
- Conducted environmental compliance inspections at 178 District facilities;
- Conducted 58 environmental compliance training sessions for Maintenance and Operations personnel, garages, plant managers, and Chemical Safety Coordinators;
- Prepared and submitted environmental compliance reports to local, State and Federal regulatory agencies; OEHS produced 226 of these reports;
- Provided environmental oversight and regulatory clearance on approximately 30 new school projects to ensure that proposed school sites are safe as locations for schools; and,
- Provided environmental oversight and regulatory support on 100 existing and Charter School projects.

Check out the Office of Environmental Safety and Health website at www.lausd-oehs.org to access specific information for District sites (i.e. Safe School Inspection results, Corrective Action Notices, etc.,) copies of applicable OEHS programs, training material or to schedule a consultative visit.

OEHS response hotline: 213-241-3199 (7:30 am – 4 pm, M-F) | 213-625-6631 (after hours)