

FY25 ANNUAL REPORT



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

Promoting lab and research safety

Developed medical counseling videos for animal care workers in collaboration with the Department of Comparative Medicine, covering risks, safety measures, and medical interventions for biological agents. Updated laboratory design standard to guide UW stakeholders and external contractors in creating safer, more efficient lab environments. Hosted the [2025 American Academy of Underwater Sciences \(AAUS\) annual Diving For Science Symposium](#), welcoming participants from national and international scientific diving programs. This six-day symposium was the largest in AAUS history and offered classes, training, and scientific presentations. Provided support to research labs experiencing disruptions to funding.

Improving access and efficiency

Relocated personnel and operations from two separate buildings into the [new Gateway Building](#), consolidating services into a modern, centralized space. The move included a newly upgraded Employee Health Center with enhanced patient care areas, a dedicated respirator fit testing room designed for privacy and efficiency, and dedicated lab for air quality equipment—supporting faster deployment of monitoring tools for campus emergencies and exposure assessments. Upgraded the [EH&S website](#), improving accessibility, and content clarity for the UW community. EH&S, in coordination with UW Medicine, launched a project to replace our antiquated Employee Health Records and Online Accident Reporting System (OARS). This project will enable web-based completion of medical screening forms, and automated notifications for units and personnel who work with hazardous materials and in specialized environments that require ongoing medical screenings, tests, and surveillance, and may need emergency medical follow-up.

Keeping our workers safe

Expanded the [training catalog](#) with new and improved online courses covering respirator use, fume hoods, formaldehyde, and shipping hazardous materials. Created and posted an occupational health and safety webpage with [resources for workers in animal care and use environments](#) in January 2025. Updated the Motorboat Operator Training and Instructor Courses, [Boating Safety Manual](#), and guidance on personal flotation device requirements and use. Developed a [new drone safety sheet](#).

Maintaining a healthy campus

Updated and maintained respiratory illness resources for our campus community. Modernized the Food Safety Inspection System, improving data accuracy, reporting, staff coordination and communication with campus partners. Established a new

cost-recovery model for [temporary food permits](#) to support long-term program sustainability and consistent food safety review and oversight for events across campus.

Protecting our environment

Partnered with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services to secure a new state hazardous waste contract, reducing University compliance risks and costs. Transitioned to a refrigerant recycling vendor and expanded battery recycling to off-site locations. Disposed of 28,881 pounds of expired chemicals and oversaw the disposal of 498,703 pounds of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) waste during a residence hall demolition project.

Supporting University safety compliance

Supported UW researchers to implement new federal requirements for synthetic DNA, [Dual Use Research of Concern](#), and methylene chloride use. Supported a record number of mostly regulatory inspections from WA State Dept. of Labor & Industries, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, the Federal CDC Select Agent Program, CDC Import Permit Program, and WA State Dept. of Health Office of Radiation Protection. This resulted in renewals of the UW Select Agent Program Registration, and Broad Scope Radiation License.

Responding to and preventing safety emergencies and incidents

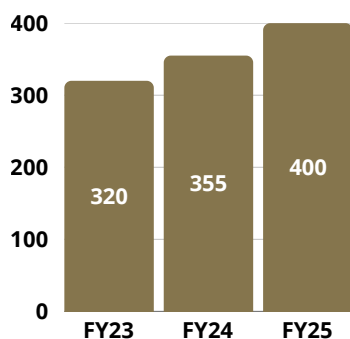
Reviewed and responded to over 100 reported incidents per month, including workplace injuries, chemical spills, fires, and near-miss events. Provided ongoing support to UW Tacoma during a [month-long power outage](#) caused by a vehicle accident; coordinated emergency clean-up, monitored indoor air quality impacted by diesel generators, and rotated on-site personnel throughout the incident. As power at UWT transitioned to a semi-permanent solution, EH&S addressed chemical management, lab safety, HVAC and fume hood evaluations, fire and life safety, and food safety—ensuring continuity of critical services and a safe campus environment. Investigated fires that led to the discovery of faulty [undercabinet light/power cord systems](#) that were removed from campus buildings, reducing further fire risk.

Demonstrating technical expertise

EH&S technical staff continued to demonstrate leadership in their fields through active participation in professional conferences, academic courses, and publications. Staff presented on radiation safety, occupational toxicology, sharps injuries, biosafety incident response, and chemical hazard management; contributed to national conversations on biosafety, safety in animal care and use environments, diving and boating safety, field safety, and public health.

Managed the disposal of over
400 tons
of hazardous waste
in more than
20,000 containers

25% increase from FY23



Recycled **77,400**
pounds
of batteries



Disposed of
15,160
pounds
of fluorescent light tubes



165
Fire drills
completed

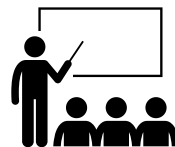


Respirator fit testing or
authorizations
provided for

734
UW personnel



63,428



EH&S safety training courses
completed by UW personnel
and students



1,757
Safety
inspections

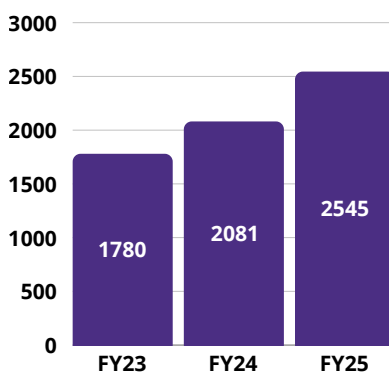
(lab, chemical, biosafety,
radiological, and shop)

Temporary food
establishment permits

2,545



43% increase from FY23



Provided dive safety
oversight to

52 scientific divers
who conducted

1,100 dives



Occupational
health screenings

completed for personnel
in the animal care and use
environment

1,566

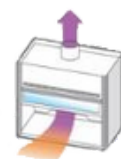


Biological Use
Authorizations
for research reviewed

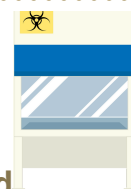
406



1,546
Fume hoods
tested



968
Biological safety
cabinets
certified or serviced



Laser Use
Authorizations **157**

issued for research
involving Class 3B
and Class 4 lasers



Responded to
pest control and
wildlife support
requests
362

