

## WEEKLY SAFETY TOPICS STEAM TUNNEL SAFETY CLEANING IN THE TUNNELS

## **TUNNEL DEBRIS MANAGEMENT**

- The tunnels contain asbestos materials. If you encounter debris that is potentially asbestos-containing material (PACM), do not clean it up. Follow these steps:
  - 1. Stop Do not disturb the material
  - 2. Contact your supervisor and alert EH&S.
  - 3. Block off access to prevent people from getting to the potentially contaminated area.
  - 4. EH&S will take a look and if necessary assist with a plan for abatement.
  - 5. If it is determined to not be PACM follow the standard dust and debris cleaning procedure below.
- For normal dust, dirt, debris, and surface cleaning follow the below steps:
  - **1. NEVER dry sweep or dust.**
  - Use a HEPA vacuum to clean all surfaces and areas whenever possible. A brush attachment may be used to gently loosen dust and debris.
  - 3. If wiping is required use wet methods only where safe (caution around electrical
    - a. Damp rags
    - b.Wet wipes (pre-packaged)
    - c.A sprayer with plain water and a rag.
  - 4. Floor cleaning should be done with a vacuum, then a wet method where safe (caution around electrical).
    - a. Damp mop
    - b. Hose and wet vac (2 person)
    - c. Low psi power wash and wet vac (2 person)



## **EMERGENCIES**

If an acute threat to safety and health is observed or perceived ( including PACM disturbance), all personnel shall immediately exit by the nearest means possible.

- <u>Call 911</u> if there is an emergency situation. Make sure to notify the dispatcher that the emergency is in a confined space.
- Provide specific directions to closest entrance and have someone meet emergency personnel to escort them.
- Assist injured employees only if it is safe and you have the necessary training.
- Secure the entrances and alert anyone in the area.
- Contact Central Plant, a supervisor and EH&S.
- Do not re-enter the tunnel until an all clear has been provided.

## UCR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY (951) 827-5528 EHS.UCR.EDU