



HIGHLANDER SAFETY TEAM

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

WEEKLY SAFETY TOPICS

STEAM TUNNEL SAFETY

WORKING IN THE TUNNELS

TUNNEL WORK PLANNING SAFE PRACTICES

- All entrants must be confined space trained.
- Develop a plan and schedule for the intended repair or maintenance work.
- Determine exit plans.
- Determine if the work will introduce additional hazards and plan controls.
- Make a plan to control the hazards and determine appropriate PPE. All entrants at minimum, must wear safety glasses, a bump cap or hard hat, work gloves, and carry a flashlight.
- Do not enter and perform repairs or maintenance alone in the tunnel system.
- A team pre-entry briefing should be done before all repair and maintenance entries.
- Always have a reliable form of communication. Use either a radio, cell phone, or a check-in procedure.
- If an atmospheric hazard is introduced that cannot be controlled by adding ventilation, the entry must be done as a permit-required entry.
- During the summer a cooling plan must be in place. Work should be scheduled early morning and frequent breaks must be allowed in a cool shady place below 80 degrees.
- Any hot work in the tunnels is a permit-required entry and needs a hot work permit approved by EH&S in advance. Ventilation must be provided and 4-gas meters shall be used to monitor the atmosphere during the entire work time. UCR Welders should wear a PAPR helmet.
- Any potential asbestos containing material damage or debris must be reported immediately to EH&S.



EMERGENCIES

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

- Call 911 if there is an emergency situation. Make sure to notify the dispatcher that the emergency is in the tunnel and what vault or entry point is closest.
- If there is an injured person trapped, provide dispatch with specific directions to closest entrance and have someone meet emergency personnel at that entrance.
- Provide aid to injured employees only if it is safe and you have the necessary training.
- Secure the entrances and alert anyone in the area to stay away.
- Contact Central Plant, a supervisor and EH&S.
- Do not re-enter the tunnel until an all-clear has been provided by your supervisor or EH&S.