

Texas A&M University, Galveston 2015 Annual Fire Safety Report on Student Housing

Higher Education Campus Fire Safety Standards and Measures



The Texas A&M University, Galveston 2015 Annual Fire Safety Report is an excerpt from the consolidated Texas A&M University 2015 Annual Fire Safety Report located at: [https://ehsd.tamu.edu/Fire%20Life%20Safety%20Documents/Annual%20Fire%20Safety%20Report%20on%20Student%20Housing%20\(1\).pdf](https://ehsd.tamu.edu/Fire%20Life%20Safety%20Documents/Annual%20Fire%20Safety%20Report%20on%20Student%20Housing%20(1).pdf)

Texas A&M University is required to distribute the following information to all current and potential students and employees. Please take a moment to read the following information. The information is also available on the Texas A&M, Galveston website:

<http://www.tamug.edu/police/FireSafetyReport.pdf>.

The consolidated Texas A&M University Annual Security Report is available at:

<https://upd.tamu.edu/Current%20Disclosures/Annual%20Security%20Report.pdf>

The Texas A&M University, Galveston Annual Security Report is available at:

<http://www.tamug.edu/police/AnnualCleryReport.pdf>

This report contains numerous links to websites that may be useful in reading the report. If any link does not function, please email ehsd-cleryandfirereports@tamug.edu.

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Chapter II - Texas A&M University, Galveston



Compiled by David K. Watson, Safety Coordinator

Mission Statement

Texas A&M University at Galveston residence hall communities incorporate the following:

- **EDUCATION:** to ensure that teaching and learning take place beyond the classroom.
- **OPENNESS:** so that ideas and thoughts can be discussed freely.
- **RESPECT:** to ensure that individuality is honored so diversity can be pursued.
- **RESPONSIBILITY:** so that the individual accepts obligations to the community and is held accountable for individual actions.
- **CARING:** to ensure that the individual's well-being is supported and that community service is encouraged.
- **INVOLVEMENT:** so that all individuals have a voice in decisions concerning their community.
- **OWNERSHIP:** to ensure that all individuals care for their building facilities and adjacent property.
- **CELEBRATION:** so that Texas A&M at Galveston's history and culture are promoted and that residence hall and university traditions are shared.

Emergency and Other Important Information

Reporting an Emergency:

On campus phones - Police/Fire/Medical 911

Off campus or cellular phones – 911

Non-Emergencies/General

University Police Department – (409) 740-4545

Safety Office – (409) 741-4055

Web Site: <http://www.tamug.edu/police/>

Other Important Telephone

Numbers: Residence Life – (409) 740-4445

Physical Plant – (409) 740-4547

Fire Department – 911

Report

This report is developed as a requirement of the Higher Education Opportunity Act (Public Law 110-315).

Fire Log Information/Location

Texas A&M University at Galveston maintains a fire log that is available to the public. It is kept at the Safety Office, Building 3006, Room 101B.

How to access:

Request by phone: TAMUG Environmental Health & Safety Office, (409) 741-4055

Request in writing: TAMUG EHS Office
Building 3006, Rm. 101B
PO Box 1675
Galveston, TX 77553

Fire Safety Definitions: (as defined by the Department of Education)

Campus Housing: Any student housing facility that is owned or controlled by the institution, or is located on property that is owned or controlled by the institution, and is within the reasonably contiguous geographic area that makes up the campus is considered an on-campus student housing facility

Cause of fire: The factor or factors that give rise to a fire. The causal factor may be, but is not limited to, the result of an intentional or unintentional action, mechanical failure, or act of nature.

Fire: Any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner.

Fire drill: A supervised practice of a mandatory evacuation of a building for a fire.

Fire-related injury: Any instance in which a person is injured as a result of a fire, including an injury sustained from a natural or accidental cause, while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of the fire. The term "person" may include students, employees, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

Fire-related death: Any instance in which a person—

- (1) Is killed as a result of a fire, including death resulting from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire; or
- (2) Dies within one year of injuries sustained as a result of the fire.

Fire safety system: Any mechanism or system related to the detection of a fire, the warning resulting from a fire, or the control of a fire. This may include sprinkler systems or other fire extinguishing systems, fire detection devices, stand-alone smoke alarms, devices that alert one to the presence of a fire, such as horns, bells, or strobe lights; smoke-control and reduction mechanisms; and fire doors and walls that reduce the spread of a fire.

Value of property damage: The estimated value of the loss of the structure and contents, in terms of the cost of replacement in like kind and quantity. This estimate should include contents damaged by fire, and related damages caused by smoke, water, and overhaul; however, it does not include indirect loss, such as business interruption.

On-Campus Student Housing Information

Texas A&M University at Galveston operates seven residence hall facilities. Five, (Atlantic, Pacific, Oceans, Hullabaloo and Mariner Halls) are traditional dorm-style facilities and two (Albatross and Polaris Halls) are apartment-style facilities. Polaris and Albatross Halls are privately owned, but operated and maintained by Texas A&M University at Galveston.

Below is a summary of fire protection features provided in each of our on-campus residential facilities.

On-Campus Student Housing Facilities - Fire Safety Systems

Atlantic and Pacific Halls

Both facilities are protected by an automatic fire detection system that reports directly to the Galveston Fire Department as well as the Safety Coordinator and Campus Police via the main fire panel. The fire protection system is comprised of smoke and heat detectors, audible and visual alarm devices and hallway manual pull stations, all of which report to the main fire panel. All devices are point-addressable and the buildings are fully sprinkled. Fire extinguishers are mounted throughout the buildings and emergency lighting is installed in each facility.

Oceans, Hullabaloo and Mariner Halls

Each facility is protected by an automatic fire detection system that reports directly to the Galveston Fire Department as well as the Safety Coordinator and Campus Police via the main fire panel. The fire protection system is comprised of smoke and heat detectors, audible and visual alarm devices and hallway manual pull stations, all of which report to the main fire panel. Fire extinguishers are also mounted throughout the building. Emergency lighting is installed in each facility.

Polaris and Albatross Halls

Both facilities are protected by an automatic fire detection system that reports directly to the Galveston Fire Department. The fire protection system is comprised of smoke detectors, audible and visual alarm devices, hallway manual pull stations and sprinklers in each room and hallway. Fire extinguishers are also mounted throughout the buildings. Emergency lighting is installed in both facilities.

Statistics and Related Information Regarding Fires in Residential Facilities for Calendar Years 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Hullabaloo Hall

(200 Seawolf Parkway, Bld. 3005A) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Oceans Hall

(200 Seawolf Parkway, Bld. 3005B) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Mariner Hall

(200 Seawolf Parkway, Bld. 3009C) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Polaris Hall

(1014D, Texas Clipper Rd.) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Albatross Hall

(1014E, Texas Clipper Rd.) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Pacific Hall

(200 Seawolf Parkway, Bld. 3031) One fire reported in 2012 calendar year (see table below), and no fires reported for 2013 or 2014 calendar years.















Atlantic Hall

(200 Seawolf Parkway, Bld. 3032) No fires reported for 2012, 2013 or 2014 calendar years.

Statistics and Related Information Regarding Fires In Residential Facilities for Calendar Year 2012							
Facility Name	Building Address	Total Fires in Each Facility	Fire Number	Cause of Fire	Number of Injuries That Required Treatment at a Medical Facility	Number of Deaths Related to a Fire	Value of Property Damage Caused By a Fire
Hullabaloo Hall	200 SEAWOLF PARKWAY, Bld. 3005A	0					
Oceans Hall	200 SEAWOLF PARKWAY, Bld. 3005B	0					
Mariner Hall	200 SEAWOLF PARKWAY, Bld. 3009C	0					
Atlantic Hall	200 SEAWOLF PARKWAY, Bld. 3032	0					
Pacific Hall	200 SEAWOLF PARKWAY, Bld. 3031	1	1	UNINTENTIONAL-OTHER	0	0	\$0-\$99
Albatross Hall	1014E, TEXAS CLIPPER RD	0					
Polaris Hall	1014D, TEXAS CLIPPER RD	0					

Texas A&M University At Galveston

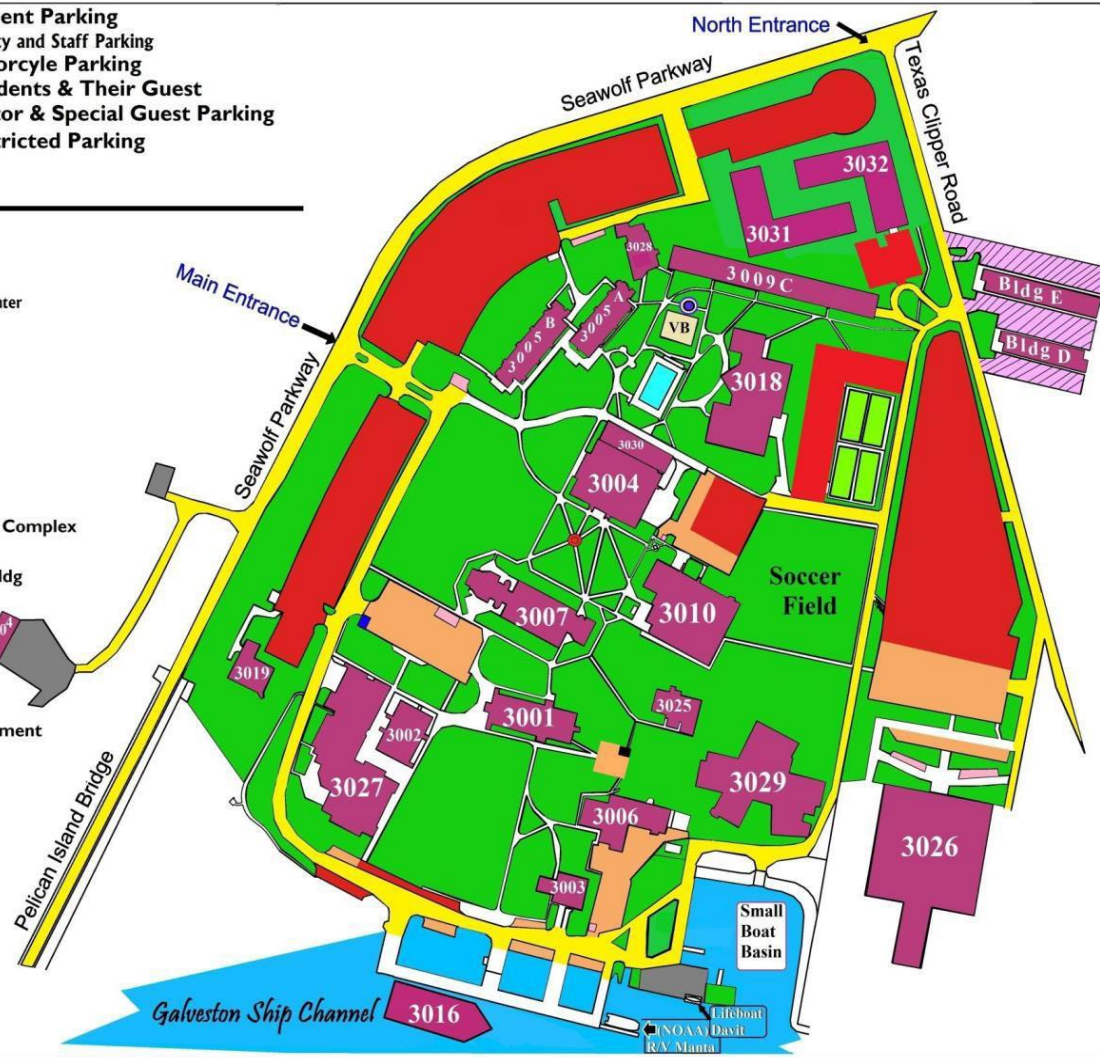
CAMPUS MAP

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Buildings |  Student Parking |
|  Grass |  Faculty and Staff Parking |
|  Roadways |  Motorcycle Parking |
|  Gazebo |  Residents & Their Guest |
|  Tennis Court |  Visitor & Special Guest Parking |
|  Pool |  Restricted Parking |
|  Volley Ball | |
|  Clock Tower | |

- 3001 - {KIRK} Kirham Hall
- 3002 - {ENGR} Marine Transportation
- 3003 - {WFO} Waterfront Operations
- 3004 - {NSC} Mary Moody Northen Student Center
- 3006 - Facilities Services
- 3007 - {CLB} Classroom Lab Bldg
- 3010 - {WILL} Jack K. Williams Library
- 3016 - {SHIP} General Rudder
- 3018 - {GPEF} P.E. Facility
- 3019 - Sewage Plant
- 3025 - {Student Support} Police
- 3026 - {SAGC} Sea Aggie Center
- 3027 - {PMEC} Powell Marine Engineering Complex
- 3028 - {RLB} Residence Life Building
- 3029 - {OCSB} Ocean & Coastal Studies Bldg
- 3030 - {SSSC} Seibel Center
- 3104 - {WTLC} Wetlands Center

Residence Halls:

- 3005A - Hullabaloo Hall
- 3005B - Oceans Hall
- 3009C - Mariner Hall / Academic Enhancement
- 3031 - Pacific Hall
- 3032 - Atlantic Hall
- BldgD - Polaris Hall
- BldgE - Albatross Hall



Fire Safety Policies

This is an excerpt from the University Rules (Revised: 1994)

Residence Halls

33.14 Cooking in the residence facilities is prohibited.* All kitchen appliances with the exception of coffee pots, hot pots, popcorn poppers, microwaves, and blenders are prohibited in the residence halls.

33.15 Refrigerators are permitted in designated rooms only when such refrigerators meet the following university specifications:

33.15.1 The refrigerator is "Underwriters Laboratory" approved and has a running current requirement not to exceed 1.6 amps.

33.15.2 The electrical cord plugs directly into the power receptacle.

33.15.3 During extended holidays, between semesters, and in the case of a campus evacuation, the refrigerator is emptied, cleaned and unplugged.

33.15.4 The refrigerator is removed from the room prior to applying for room clearance. **

33.16 No student is permitted on the roofs of the residence halls.

33.17 Cadet Officers or resident advisors in each residence facility are responsible for the maintenance of order, the preservation of property and the cleanliness of the hall and/or area assigned to their organization.

33.18 A student's room may be entered by a staff member to provide cleaning and/or maintenance, to conduct an inventory of university property, to conduct a health and safety check, to assure compliance with applicable housing codes, when an emergency exists or is believed to exist, or when the staff member has reasonable cause to believe that a violation of civil or criminal laws, *University Student Rules*, or housing rules has occurred or is occurring. Additional inspection of cadet corps rooms may be made by authorized cadets and cadre in accordance with Corps of Cadet Rules. In the event of sudden illness, death, or some other reason for which a student might be absent for a prolonged or indefinite period, university officials are authorized to collect and store for safekeeping and proper disposal the affected student's personal belongings and property which are on university premises.

33.19 Open flames inside residence hall rooms, on balconies, or on passageways outside of residence halls are prohibited. This includes but is not limited to burning candles, incense, hibachis, and barbecue grills.

33.20 Combustible materials in corridors must be limited to student message boards and university installed community bulletin boards.

33.21 Balconies and hallways are to remain clear of furnishings and other material to maintain clear exit paths in case of fire. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to, hammocks, barbecue grills, hibachis, furniture, bicycles and plants.

33.22 Charcoal and charcoal lighter fluid may not be stored in residence hall rooms or on balconies.

33.23 Fire exit doors and doors separating exit stairways from corridors may not be propped open at any time.

*Albatross and Polaris Halls have built-in kitchenettes with a two-burner range and microwave oven. Cooking is permitted.

** Albatross and Polaris Halls have a university-supplied refrigerator that should not be removed.

SMOKING IS NOT PERMITTED IN ANY CAMPUS BUILDING

Fire Drill and Evacuation Procedures for Students

Fire Drills

Emergency evacuation drills are conducted once during each semester. Residence life staff uses the drills to both educate and remind the residents of the proper evacuation procedure and to survey the facility for any non-functional devices.

During calendar year 2014 two drills were conducted for each residence life facility. The Safety Coordinator prepares a report and copies are sent to the Assistant Director of Residence Life.

TAMUG Emergency Evacuation Procedures for Students

If You Hear a Fire Alarm

1. Immediately evacuate the building via the shortest and safest route. Do not use elevators.
2. If you notice smoke, use an alternative escape route.
3. Test doors with the back of your hand before opening them. If the door is warm or if you notice smoke, use an alternate escape route. Check paths for safety before proceeding and close doors behind you.
4. Crawl low (the bottom 2 or 3 inches of the area) if you have to go through smoke.
5. Go to the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
6. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, alert the Group Leader / Resident Advisor at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
7. If you are trapped during a fire emergency, close all doors between you and the fire. Stuff cracks around the doors with wet towels / cloth to keep out smoke. Wait at a safe window and signal for help. If there is a phone in the room, call **9-1-1** and tell them exactly where you are.
8. Stop, Drop and Roll if your clothing catches fire.
9. Stay at the emergency assembly area until you are released by the Group Leader / Resident Advisor.

If You Discover a Fire

1. Leave the fire area and close the door to the area.
2. Sound the fire alarm.
3. Immediately evacuate the building via the shortest and safest route.
4. Do not use elevators. A fire can disrupt the operation of elevators and trap occupants inside.
5. If you notice smoke, use an alternate escape route.
6. Test doors with the back of your hand before opening them. If the door is warm or if you notice smoke, use an alternative escape route. Check paths for safety before proceeding and close doors behind you.
7. Crawl low (the bottom 2 or 3 inches of the area) if you have to go through smoke.

8. Go to the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
9. From the nearest phone in the emergency assembly area outside of the building, call 911.
10. Await emergency response personnel at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
11. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, alert the Group Leader / Resident Advisor at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
12. If you are trapped during a fire emergency, close all doors between you and the fire and stuff cracks around the doors with wet towels / cloth to keep out smoke. Wait at a safe window and signal / call for help. If there is a phone in the room, call *9-1-1* and tell them exactly where you are.
13. Stop, Drop and Roll if your clothing catches fire.
14. Stay at the emergency assembly area outside of the building until you are released by the Group Leader / Resident Advisor.

Once You Have Evacuated

1. From the nearest phone in the emergency assembly area outside the building, call 9-1-1.
2. Report the fire to the Group Leader / Resident Advisor at the emergency assembly area.
3. If you suspect that someone is missing or trapped, alert the Group Leader / Resident Advisor at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
4. Await emergency response personnel at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
5. Never re-enter the building to save your personal belongings.
6. Stay at the emergency assembly area outside of the building until you are released by the Group Leader / Resident Advisor.
7. Do not re-enter the building until instructed to do so by the Group Leader / Resident Advisor at the emergency assembly area outside of the building.
8. Follow directions of fire and police personnel and the housing staff.
9. Stay calm

Fire Safety Education and Training Programs

Basic fire safety instruction is provided to all students by multiple means. Each dorm room is provided with an instructional sign located on the back side of the door containing instructions on what to do in an emergency. Students also participate in two fire drills each semester to help ensure they understand the evacuation procedures during an emergency. Additionally, Community Leaders receive specific training during orientation outlining their responsibilities during various emergencies. Hands-on fire extinguisher training is also available on request. In addition, ongoing education and safety awareness is available to all campus personnel on our campus website via the link below.

<http://www.tamug.edu/emergency/noshow/Fire.html>

<http://www.tamug.edu/emergency/index.html>

<http://www.tamug.edu/emergency/Emergency%20Procedures/FireHAZMAT.html>

Fire Safety Inspection Program

Texas A&M University at Galveston conducts several levels of fire and life safety inspections in all of our residence hall and apartment facilities including conducts inspections, testing, and maintenance of fire safety equipment in compliance with the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association. This includes emergency lighting and regular fire extinguisher inspections and maintenance.

Residence Halls

Pre-Occupancy Inspections – Prior to occupancy of residence halls each fall, spring and summer semester, a more in-depth inspection is conducted. These inspections include all common areas, mechanical, electrical, and custodial areas within each building as well as exit paths outside of the facilities.

Annual Fire Safety System Inspections-Once per year, inspections are conducted by our fire safety systems contractor, Simplex-Grinnell, to assure all fire safety systems and system devices are working as designed.

Fall Room Inspections – The Department of Residence Life, conducts fire and life safety inspections of all campus residence halls during the Fall Semester. The intent of these inspections is to increase the level of safety and safety awareness for all occupants of the residence halls. These inspections include residence hall rooms and staff offices as well as mechanical and common areas. Inspections begin around the third week of the semester and will continue until all residence halls have been inspected. Inspections will be conducted in the presence of a residence hall staff member. Advance notification of all inspections will be provided to hall staff. Safety practices in general and the Fire Life safety rules found in the rules section will be the primary focus of the inspection. These inspections will look for such items as:

- Electrical: Use of extension cords, cover plate missing/damaged, electrical wiring frayed/damaged/crimped, multi adapter without breaker in use, prohibited/unapproved appliances
- Fire Alarm Equipment: smoke detector obstructed (min. 24" clearance), smoke detector damaged
- Lofts: being less than 30" from the ceiling, being of poor construction and/or being placed in an unsafe/unapproved location
- Ignition Sources/Combustible Products: candles/incense being present in the room, flammable liquids in the room, combustible materials near electrical source, and excessive fire load in the room
- Emergency Planning: absence of the evacuation plan on the back of the room door, window/door obstructed
- Miscellaneous: poor housekeeping, floor/wall/ceiling penetrations, and the door closure missing/damaged

Plans for Future Improvements in Fire Safety

We plan to improve campus safety by arranging for 24 hour off-site monitoring of all fire alarm devices on campus.

Report Contact Information

For purposes of including fire statistics in the annual fire safety report, employees and students should report all instances that a fire occurred in on-campus student housing to the individuals listed below.

David K. Watson
Safety Coordinator
watsond@tamug.edu
(409) 741-4055

Neil Golemo
Assistant Director-Residence Life
golemon@tamug.edu
(409) 740-4469

Mike Phillips
Fire and Life Safety Coordinator
Phillipm@tamug.edu
(409) 741-4029

Sam Martinez
Chief, University Police
martinez@tamug.edu
(409) 740-4548

