

VII. Confined Space

1.0 Policy

- 1.1 It is the policy of Texas A&M University (TAMU) that any individual entering into a confined space on TAMU property will do so in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Confined Space Program and 29CFR1910.146.
- 1.2 The purpose of this program is to identify, document, evaluate, and properly label all confined spaces on the TAMU campus, and to allow only trained and authorized personnel to enter such spaces.
- 1.3 This program also provides guidelines for all entries into confined spaces on TAMU grounds and facilities, so that they can be accomplished in a safe and healthful manner.

2.0 Reason

- 2.1 Confined spaces can present unique and very dangerous safety situations to those that must enter.
- 2.2 By their definition, confined spaces can typically be difficult to enter and exit.
- 2.3 Confined spaces can also contain atmospheric gases and other hazards that make them particularly hazardous for personnel entry.
- 2.4 The Confined Space Program involves training, signage and safety equipment, as appropriate; to be sure that employees are vigilant in their work in and around confined spaces and do not inadvertently or innocently enter into a confined space. The potential for serious injury is high, thus it is important that TAMU employees who may enter any confined space, work with their department and EHS to ensure that all necessary safety precautions are considered and taken.

3.0 Definition and Locations

- 3.1 A confined space is defined as:
 - 3.1.1 A space with the existence of all of the following conditions:
 - 3.1.1.1 Large enough and so configured that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work. Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit.
 - 3.1.1.2 Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

3.2 Locations

3.2.1 TAMU has undertaken the effort to identify and maintain a detailed listing that permanently identifies locations meeting the criteria for a confined space.

3.2.2 In addition, TAMU will identify and label Permit Required Confined Spaces (PRCS). Only appropriately trained individuals may enter PRCS.

4.0 Examples of a Confined Space

4.1 Some examples of confined spaces at TAMU include manholes, boilers, tanks, vats, sewer pipelines, and vaults without existing general ventilation.



5.0 Training

5.1 All employees that participate or have duties in the Confined Space Program will receive training to ensure that each individual has the understanding, knowledge and skills necessary to safely perform activities in the confined space.

5.2 The level of training will be in accordance with the Confined Space Program.

6.0 Work in a Confined Space

6.1 All work in a confined space must be performed in accordance with the Confined Space Program. (Review the [Confined Space Program](#).)

6.2 If you are unsure about whether you will be entering a confined space, you must **STOP** and contact your supervisor or EHS, before entering the area.

END OF SECTION