

# Safety Shower Testing Guidelines

## A Short Guide for Zone Maintenance (Facilities Services)

*(Refer to the Safety Manual document "Safety Showers and Eye Washes" at <http://ehs.utk.edu/>. American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z358.1, "Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment," (ANSI [Z]358.1-2014) OSHA General Industry 29 CFR 1910.151(c), for more info)*



### Annual Safety Shower Inspection

**Purpose:** To flush the line and verify proper operation.

- Using a tape measure, measure the distance from the floor to the shower head. The distance should be at least 82". Then measure the distance from the floor to the handle/actuator. This distance should not be more than 69". If the handle is too high and cannot be adjusted lower, a strap, string or some other item can be tied to the handle to make it reachable.
- A large trash can on wheels, with marks for every 10 gallons is recommended for collecting water. Place a sleeve over the shower head to minimize water spray to surrounding area and turn on the water. Let water run for 30 seconds then turn it off. You should have at least 10 gallons of water collected. If you have more than 15 gallons of water, the water flow may be too high and should be adjusted. The force of the water should not cause injury.
- The center of spray pattern should be located at least 16" from any obstruction. (A stick measuring 32" could be used, hold center of stick at center of sleeve and make sure nothing is within that diameter).
- The valve should activate in one second or less, have a stay-on feature and stay on until turned off.
- Water temperature should not exceed 100°F and should not be lower than 60°F. (recommend a thermometer that does not contain mercury, collect a small amount of the water as it comes from the sleeve to measure temperature)
- The date of testing (month and year) and initials of person performing the test should be documented on a tag attached to the shower.

EMERGENCY SHOWER & EYE WASH TEST RECORD			
INSPECT THIS UNIT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING INSPECTION CARD			
DATE	BY	DATE	BY

### If Maintenance Is Required

- Immediately report any safety shower that does not meet the above standards to your supervisor.
- Any required modifications, repair, and/or maintenance on shower equipment should be on a high priority basis.
- Following repairs or modifications, recertify the safety shower by following the above steps for annual inspection.
- Units that fail testing must be repaired immediately. If deficiencies cannot be immediately corrected, the lab supervisor or principal investigator (PI) must be notified and the unit must be tagged "DO NOT USE."

