

Statement of Commitment

Health, Safety and Environmental Protection

Kansas State University's College of Agriculture is committed to maintaining a healthy and safe environment for its students, faculty, staff, visitors, and neighbors. We strive to foster a culture of safety and environmental protection among users of all our facilities. Members of the College of Agriculture community should therefore comply with all environmental health and safety laws, regulations, and with current best practices; especially in laboratory and field settings. In addition, members of the community should commit to continuous improvement in their efforts to minimize adverse environmental impacts and safety risks by committing to a culture of safety in the College's operations by:

- Accepting the critical role each person has in protecting his or her own safety and occupational health, as well as that of others.
- Recognizing the critical importance of adherence to the highest standards for safety and occupational health for our students, staff, and the communities around us.
- Minimizing air and water pollution, and waste generation.
- Incorporating safety and environmental protection into all operations, including but not limited to experimental design, facility construction, and equipment specifications.
- Providing students and employees with health, safety and environmental education targeted to maximize safe work practices and to minimize the potential for injury or illness.
- Creating an environment where individuals are able to recognize and to report errors without fear of reprimand or punishment.
- Providing appropriate and timely information in response to questions or concerns about environmental health and safety issues.
- Investigating incidents, disseminating lessons learned to faculty, staff and student workers, and modifying programs, as appropriate, to incorporate any potential improvements identified.
- Creating an environment of collaboration among all stakeholders, including researchers, environmental health and safety coordinators, students, and staff.
- Identifying health, safety, and environmental issues and resolving them in a time efficient manner.

The College's Environmental Health and Safety staff, working closely with oversight committees, has developed programs and standards of practice designed to further the above goals.

Department heads, directors, unit leaders, lab managers and other supervisors are responsible for [implementing this commitment](#) within their areas of responsibility.

John D. Floros, PhD
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