

CONFINED SPACES



In today's Toolbox Talk we will be looking at how to identify confined spaces in your buildings.

A Confined Space must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Have limited means of egress
 - Manholes
 - Removable plates or hatches
 - Ladder as an entrance or exit
 - Holes, pits, excavation sites with a depth of 4 feet
2. The space must be large enough to enter
3. The space is not designed for continuous human occupancy

If you answer Yes to all of these questions, it is a confined space:

- Does the space have a sign from the UVA Confined Space Standard?
 - If it does not and you think it could meet the criteria of a confined space, please contact your supervisor for further assistance.

When is a Confined Space Entry Permit Needed?

- If a confined space has any recognized hazards such as an atmospheric hazard, an engulfment hazard, or an entrapment hazard, then a permit is required for entry. Remember that certain work activities in a Confined Space can make a permit necessary.
- Only workers that have attended the Confined Space Entry training or annual refresher training are allowed to enter a permit-required space.

Group Discussion Topics:

- Talk about entry procedures and any events that relate to your facility's confined spaces.
- Ask the group if they have any questions or any stories about confined spaces.
- Identify how someone could be injured in the confined spaces in your facility, how can this be prevented?
- Determine if any of your personnel are in need of confined space training and contact FM-OHS for scheduling information.

Training:
Employees entering a permit required space need to receive Entry Training.

Signage:
Ensure all confined spaces are affixed with proper confined space signs.



FM-OHS:

fm-ohs@virginia.edu

(434) 297-6379