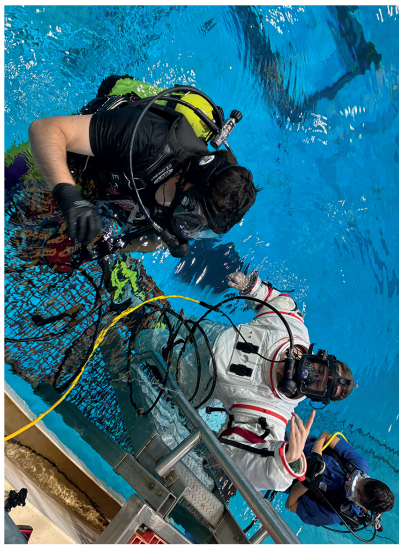






2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY,
SUSTAINABILITY & RISK

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, SUSTAINABILITY & RISK

2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

A Year of Advancing Safety Culture, Innovation, and Community Resilience



I am proud to share the *2025-2026 Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk (ESSR) Annual Report,* which highlights our steadfast commitment to our foundational mission: **Protect People and the Environment.** Across our campus departments, laboratories, and operational facilities, ESSR is engaging with you, our faculty, students, and staff, to make safety and sustainability the shared values that guide how the University of Maryland teaches, discovers, and serves.

This year ESSR established the Office of Occupational Safety & Risk Resilience (OSRR). **Moving from risk "management" to risk "resilience",** OSRR serves as a centralized, comprehensive program that integrates occupational safety and health, workers' compensation, property protection, and insurance management into a single, authoritative framework. OSRR focuses on our people, our operations, and our physical property across the Division of Administration and for the University of Maryland.

Protecting people, operations, and infrastructure, UMD achieved an 11% reduction in workplace injuries - an achievement recognized with a letter to President Pines from SERMA, the State Employee Risk Management Administration. ESSR continued to expand multilingual safety communications in Spanish, Chinese, Amharic, and Haitian Creole. Our teams reviewed over 3,000 student organization events and, in compliance with Maryland Senate Bill 1099, co-located naloxone across more than 250 campus AED cabinets, with locations mapped through the PulsePoint mobile app. ESSR provided technical guidance for the NextGen Central Energy Plant, ensured background checks for over 400 adults working with minors, delivered comprehensive fire and life-safety operations for major athletic events, and safely collected and diverted over 87,000 pounds of chemical waste and 38,000 pounds of biohazardous waste.

Advancing a culture of laboratory and fieldwork safety, our Biosafety team earned first place in the ABSA International Biosafety & Biosecurity Month Outreach Award competition for its *"It Takes a Village to Build a Culture of Biosafety"* campaign. Lab Safety's second annual Lab Safety Awareness Week engaged our researchers and celebrated our safety champions with the cutest award! The Scientific Diving Program welcomed a new Scientific Diving Safety Officer and completed over 400 research dives with no safety incidents.

Growing sustainability engagement, UMD celebrated the 15th anniversary of the University Sustainability Fund, which has invested more than $6.2 million in 350 campus projects since 2011. New initiatives, including the *Green Terp Bucket List Challenge,* with more than 700 student participants, and the *Sustainability Across the Curriculum* faculty workshop, broadened participation in building a more sustainable campus. Together with our campus partners, and ESSR's Office of Research Safety and Office of Environmental Affairs, the Office of Sustainability expanded the Green Labs ***Plastics 4 Purpose*** recycling initiative.

These innovative accomplishments demonstrate what is possible when safety, sustainability, and resilience are advanced together. I extend my deepest gratitude to the ESSR teams and to our university leadership, faculty, researchers, students, and staff for their continued partnership. As you explore the pages of this report, I invite you to discover the milestones and dedicated teams behind our shared progress.

Sincerely,

Mary J. Dorman
Executive Director
Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, SUSTAINABILITY & RISK

OUR VISION

Our vision is a campus where safety and sustainability are core values at every level of the institution.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide leadership in the identification and management of safety and environmental risks and to foster excellence in safety and sustainability through our technical expertise, our quality of work and our professional integrity.

OUR VALUES

The Department of Environmental Safety, Sustainability & Risk (ESSR) holds these values as intrinsic to our mission –

Protect People and the Environment	We put the highest priority in returning people home the same or better than they arrived. Through education, training and knowledge sharing we promote a culture of safety and sustainability.
Excellence	We expect state-of-the-art competencies of ourselves and others in all areas of workplace safety, environmental management and sustainability. We deliver high quality programs and services to the campus community.
Leadership	Our people at all levels, have ownership and take initiative in their areas of responsibility and demonstrate the safe, sustainable and environmentally friendly behaviors we expect of others.
Service	We provide professional services to the University of Maryland community. We are a resource for those we support and we follow through on our commitments in a timely manner.
Belonging	We acknowledge and honor the fundamental value and dignity of all individuals. We are committed to fostering a sense of belonging by actively seeking and encouraging discussion and participation from individuals with different perspectives and experiences.
Collaboration	We are committed to building partnerships and working together to find the best solutions to collectively achieve our goals. We are open to new ideas and creative solutions. We seek to engage and motivate the campus community to accept ownership of the university's safety and sustainability culture.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Environmental Affairs (OEA) is comprised of a staff of seven full-time employees and is engaged in three primary areas of focus – regulated waste management, multi-media environmental compliance assurance, and assisting with environmental aspects of various real estate initiatives, as well as management of the beneficial reutilization of the University's legacy landfill areas under a RCRA Corrective Action Permit. OEA works with campus stakeholders to facilitate campus-wide compliance with federal and state environmental regulations and all associated permits. OEA helps the campus community manage environmental risk by developing policies, procedures, training, and consulting with campus entities including faculty, staff and students in labs, offices, and maintenance shops. OEA conducts required regulatory inspections, testing, and reporting.

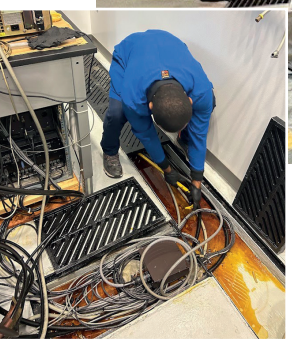
Regulated Waste Management Programs

The regulated waste programs encompass the collection, management, and disposal of all hazardous, biohazardous, radioactive and universal waste generated at the College Park campus and UMD's satellite facilities, which includes the Institute for Bioscience and Biotechnology Research (IBBR) in Rockville, Maryland and the various farms and other remote research facilities located throughout the State. OEA staff regularly collect and manage over 100,000 pounds of regulated waste on an annual basis. OEA operates a fully permitted hazardous waste storage facility on campus, one of only 12 such facilities in the State of Maryland. The facility's operations are performed in a safe manner to ensure that all waste is managed safely, and practices meet all federal and state environmental regulations.

Spill & Incident Response

Clean up and spill responses for most HAZMAT incidents are managed by the OEA unit. OEA staff are on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to respond to and mitigate environmental incidents on the campus.





Above: The late Kevin Curtis and Fadi Samawi during a spill cleanup

Left: Kim Engineering oil spill cleanup

Stormwater / Pollution Prevention Compliance and Training

OEA currently manages multiple stormwater permits and pollution prevention programs for the University. OEA recently completed a study to develop site-specific discharge permit limits for the campus for copper that are protective of the environment. The study is the culmination of a multi-year effort and involves aquatic toxicology monitoring in the various waterbodies that surround the campus.

- OEA is working to support the NextGen energy program with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) permitting associated with the planned Central Energy Plant. The permit would allow process wastewater from the Central Energy Plant (CEP) to be discharged to the sanitary sewer.
- Industrial Discharge Permit, which specifically regulates campus discharges from outfalls to surrounding streams (Permit #17-DP-2618).
- Six (6) General Discharge Permits for Stormwater Associated with Industrial Activities (Permit #20-SW-3281, 20-SW-3854, 20-SW-3855, 20-SW-3856, 20-SW-3857, and 20-SW-3858), which permit the discharge of stormwater from certain facilities that are targeted as high potential sources for stormwater pollution.
- General Permit for Discharges from Tanks, Pipes, Other Liquid Containment Structures, Dewatering Activities, and Groundwater Remediation (Permit #17-HT-9792)
- NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Phase II General Permit (Permit #13-SF-5501), which covers the general discharge of stormwater run-off from land, pavement, building rooftops and construction sites on campus.
- General Permit for Discharges Associated with Pesticide Application (Permit #17-PE-0195), which streamlines the use of herbicides and pesticides at the College Park campus and all satellite UMD facilities.

Stormwater / Pollution Prevention Compliance and Training, continued

- Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans to prevent and mitigate oil spills on campus, IBBR/USG campus, as well as the 6 farms operated by the University.
- Two Oil Operations Permits for the College Park campus and operations at the Severn Building.

Air Quality Permitting and Reporting

UMD is required under federal and state regulations to hold a Title V Air Quality Permit, with this requirement being primarily driven by the University's CEP. OEA collaborates with other departments on campus to ensure that various management tasks associated with the Title V Air Quality Permit are completed and submitted in a timely manner, including testing fuel-burning equipment, permitting new fuel-burning equipment, and reporting air emissions from the campus, including "greenhouse gas" emissions. OEA continues to provide technical support to the University as we plan and implement the NextGen project, which involves replacement of the former central energy plant. As part of this project, OEA obtained the required air permit for the Interim Boiler Plant and is in the process of obtaining the air permit for the new CEP. Additionally, we have been working with the new design/build/operate team to facilitate compliance across their various activities and operations.

Campus Development Initiatives

During FY26, OEA continued to provide support to the University as we acquired new property, developed existing properties, divested property, and engaged in new relationships with non-University entities. In addition to conducting environmental site assessments related to property acquisition / divestment transactions, OEA provided technical assistance to multiple partnerships with non-University entities, including the Purple Line Project, several start-up ventures, the redevelopment of the Old Leonardtown housing complex, and redevelopment of the IonQ facility located in the Paint Branch Building.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS FY26 DATA

Regulated Waste Management Programs	
Regulated Waste Pickup Requests	8,545 requests / items
Chemical Waste (solid & liquid)	87,267 pounds
Biohazardous Waste (solid)	38,142 pounds
Radioactive Waste (solid & liquid)	490 pounds
Universal Waste (e.g., batteries & bulbs)	37,018 pounds
Scrap Metal Recycling	260 pounds
Used Oil	2,343 pounds
Used Antifreeze	300 pounds
Waste Diverted as Municipal Solid Waste	100 pounds
Regulated Waste Training Provided	4,831 faculty, staff, students
Laboratory / Shop Chemical Cleanouts	19 cleanouts
Unknown/Unidentified Wastes Tested	97 items
Spill & Incident Response	
Oil Spills	9 incidents
Hazardous Waste/Spills On-Call Incident Response	12 incidents
Stormwater / Pollution Prevention Compliance and Training	
Stormwater Permits Managed and Implemented	10 permits
Outfall Sampling and Inspection	51 outfalls
Pollution Prevention Training Provided	42 faculty, staff, students
Illicit Discharge Investigations	5 investigations
Spill Prevention and Control Compliance and Training	
Spill Prevention Control Plan (SPCC)	406 regulated assets inspected
SPCC Plan Inspections Completed	522 Inspections
Spill Prevention and Control Training Provided	186 faculty, staff, students
Air Quality Permitting and Reporting	
Fuel Burning Equipment Combustion Tested	41 tests performed
Air Permits to Construct	1 permit prepared, 3 registrations

OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) works to preserve and protect life and property from fire, explosion, and natural hazards. This is accomplished through enforcement of the State Fire Prevention Code, fire protection engineering, training, public education, fire investigation, emergency response and preparedness. OFM is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) for the University of Maryland. Fire Marshals are delegated legal authority by the Maryland State Fire Marshal.

Naloxone Added to Campus Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Cabinets



Senate Bill 1099, passed by the Maryland General Assembly on October 1, 2024, requiring that Naloxone be co-located with AEDs in public buildings.

Naloxone, also known by the brand name Narcan, is a life-saving medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdoses. Having Naloxone available in AED cabinets expands immediate life safety resources and supports a faster response when minutes matter. The form of Naloxone in the AED cabinets is easily administered by nasal spray.

OFM manages the UMD AED public access program. Naloxone is managed and supplied by the University Health Center (UHC) to OFM staff. OFM staff have placed the Naloxone provided by UHC in over 250 AED cabinets across campus.

Publicly available AEDs on campus can be located by using the PulsePoint App. OFM registers UMD AEDs on PulsePoint, which is available for free on iOS (App Store) and Android (Google Play) devices.

Keith Lippincott Honored for 20 Years of Service to ESSR



Keith Lippincott joined the University of Maryland in 2004 and has served as Chief Fire Protection Engineer for more than 20 years. Before joining the University, he worked with the Prince George's County Fire/Building Department.

In his role with the University, Keith is responsible for plan reviews, construction inspections, and issuing the OFM certificates of occupancy. He has been directly involved in the design and construction of every new building on the College Park campus, including residence halls, dining facilities, Clark Hall, the Idea Factory, and Zupnik Hall. His work has also supported new construction at other University System of Maryland campuses, including Shady Grove, Frostburg, Bowie State, and Salisbury.

In addition to his work at the University, Keith serves as an instructor at the Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute, where he teaches several fire protection and emergency services courses. His commitment to the fire service is both professional and personal. Keith has been a volunteer firefighter since the early 1980s and, since 2021, has played the bugle for Bugles Across America, an organization dedicated to honoring fallen military heroes by sounding Taps.

While Keith has dedicated 20 years of service to the College Park community through ESSR, his commitment to serving the University and communities throughout Maryland extends back decades.

Stanley R. Zupnik Hall

The newest science and engineering addition to our campus is Stanley R. Zupnik Hall, located at the intersection of Paint Branch Drive and Stadium Drive in the heart of the Maryland Engineering complex. This new facility expands our research and teaching capabilities with 31 state-of-the-art laboratories.

Zupnik Hall also features several standout architectural and technology elements, including a six-level atrium surrounded by glass-enclosed laboratories and connected by wood-framed walkways, as well as the Connected Autonomous Vehicle Lab supporting autonomous driving development. These features and innovations require specialized fire protection strategies, including Very Early Smoke Detection Apparatus (VESDA) systems. VESDA systems are advanced aspirating smoke detection systems that use a network of sampling pipes to continuously draw air to a highly

Stanley R. Zupnik Hall, continued

sensitive laser detector, providing early warning before smoke is visible. In the atrium, the VESDA system will also activate the smoke exhaust system to help remove smoke from the atrium plenum.

OFM has completed fire alarm testing and is in the process of completing building inspections in support of a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (TCO). A TCO indicates the building meets minimum life safety requirements to allow furniture installation and initial staff occupancy while the contractor continues work. Before the building can receive a final Certificate of Occupancy (COO), all life safety punch list items must be completed. Once the final COO is issued, and once substantial completion requirements are met per UMD Facilities Management, the building will be fully open to the University community and the public.



Stanley R. Zupnik Hall

Gameday Operation Preparation and Execution

On game days and during other major events, OFM works closely with the University of Maryland Police Department, Athletics, Facilities Management, event organizers, and other campus stakeholders to promote the safety of the University community and visitors. Preparation begins days in advance and includes reviewing event layouts and emergency plans, inspecting tents and temporary structures, evaluating cooking and electrical operations, and confirming that fire lanes, emergency access routes, exits, and evacuation paths remain clear. During events, OFM staff provide on-site fire and life-safety support, coordinate with emergency personnel, and address safety concerns as they arise. After each event, staff evaluate operations and identify opportunities to improve future event planning and execution.



Major Event Preparation and Operations

OFM staff provided 2,820 hours of event staffing and inspections and reviewed 2,911 student event requests to help ensure events were conducted safely and in compliance with the state fire code and university requirements.

RESEARCH SAFETY

The Office of Research Safety (ORS) brings together the expertise of professionals in Biosafety, Laboratory Safety, Radiation Safety, Laser Safety, and Scientific Diving Safety to support the research community in adhering to the University's Expectations for Conducting Safe Research. At UMD, safety is a core value. University leadership expects all members of the research community to integrate safety into every aspect of their work, striving for excellence and exceeding basic compliance requirements. Whether it's collecting samples in remote locations or handling hazardous materials in campus labs, research often involves diverse health and safety risks that must be effectively identified and managed. ORS plays a critical role by offering a wide range of services, including comprehensive safety training, risk assessments, exposure monitoring, and guidance on implementing safety controls to minimize risks. In addition, ORS manages many of the University's federal and state licenses and registrations for hazardous materials, ensuring regulatory compliance as the research community pursues its goals. Through this partnership, ORS helps safeguard both research activities and the individuals conducting them.

Strengthening Radiological Emergency Preparedness Through Training and Collaboration

To strengthen emergency preparedness, ESSR hosted a Radiation Response Preparedness tabletop exercise and drill with the University of Maryland Police Department (UMPD), using AccuRad radiation detection equipment. Led by ESSR Executive Director Mary Dorman and School of Public Health graduate Michelle Sackey-Anash, the exercise brought together Radiation Safety Health Physicists, the Radiation Facility Director, supporting operators and staff, and UMPD officers. The tabletop exercise provided officers with training, practical guidance, and an understanding of response procedures in the event of a radiological emergency at UMD. A follow-up field drill allowed officers to apply their knowledge and gain hands-on experience using AccuRad equipment. ESSR Radiation Safety will continue partnering with UMPD to expand officer training and strengthen radiological emergency response capabilities.

Expanding Research Community Engagement

Biosafety launched a department-level outreach initiative, engaging about 100 faculty, staff, and researchers across Veterinary Medicine, Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics (CBMG), and IBBR. In-person sessions provided practical guidance on SciShield and IBC expectations while creating a direct channel for feedback from the research community. The team celebrated Biosafety & Biosecurity Month through "It Takes a Village to Build a Culture of Biosafety," a poster campaign recognizing researchers and stakeholders as essential contributors to UMD's biosafety culture and strengthening relationships across campus. The campaign earned First Place in the ABSA International Biosafety & Biosecurity Month Outreach Award.

Strengthening Partnerships and Service

Biosafety expanded collaboration with the University Health Center's Occupational Health program through laboratory tours and discussions, strengthening connections between occupational health services and biological research. The team launched a focused multi-hazard waste management project with relevant ESSR teams, directly engaging more than 60 PIs to clarify expectations and working with laboratories to develop procedures that meet applicable federal and state requirements. The team also released a Controlled Substance Fact Sheet and Autoclave Validation Program Standard, providing clear, practical, and consistent guidance for research compliance.



MD's Select Agent Program, a federally regulated program overseeing high-risk biological agents, held an emergency preparedness exercise with campus and community partners (ORS)

Enhancing High-Containment Preparedness

Biosafety conducted a high-containment emergency response exercise with approximately 40 participants, including UMPD, OEMBC, and Prince George's County first responders, to practice coordinated response, clarify roles and responsibilities, and strengthen emergency preparedness.

Lab Safety Awareness Week

Lab Safety hosted its second annual Lab Safety Awareness Week (LSAW), engaging the research community through a series of activities focused on laboratory safety and recognition. Existing communication channels were used to promote the week, reaching the research community through more than 11,000 emails with a 78% open rate. Activities included both in-person and virtual opportunities for participation, including a self-inspection raffle, Lab Safety Valentine card activities, a hazardous waste facility tour, and a closing celebration recognizing award recipients. Lab Safety also coordinated with media teams within the Divisions of Administration and Research to increase awareness of the events.

As part of LSAW, Lab Safety expanded its recognition efforts to include both researchers and facilities staff who contribute to laboratory safety. The response from the UMD community was strong, with 23 nominations submitted, an increase from the previous year. Lab Safety also developed laboratory safety-themed materials for the week, including custom-designed Valentine cards and awards. The awards were developed in collaboration with UMD researchers and featured a 3D-printed laboratory bench and Kermit the Frog, recognizing the connection to UMD through alumnus Jim Henson. The use of UMD-specific designs helped reinforce laboratory safety as an important part of the University's campus culture.



Miriam Sharp, Assistant Director of Academic & Laboratory Safety/ Chemical Hygiene Officer, and Mary Dorman, Executive Director of ESSR, present awards during Lab Safety Awareness Week.

Green Labs: Plastics 4 Purpose program

Lab Safety continued to support the University's sustainability efforts through the Green Labs: Plastics 4 Purpose program. Following a successful pilot, the program was officially launched to allow laboratories to recycle eligible contaminated laboratory plastics and have them converted into plastic lumber. The program expanded to several campus buildings, including Clark Hall, the Bioscience Research Building, the Biology-Psychology Building, and the Microbiology Building. To support participating laboratories, ORS, OEA, and OS held informational sessions and staff orientations and provided educational posters outlining proper recycling and waste-disposal procedures. These efforts helped laboratories incorporate plastics recycling and other waste-reduction practices into their daily operations while supporting the University's broader sustainability goals.

UMD Scientific Diving Program

The Scientific Diving Program welcomed Rick Riera-Gomez as the University's new Diving Safety Officer (DSO). Riera-Gomez brings extensive experience in scientific diving safety and program management, having previously served as the Diving Safety Officer at the University of Miami for 27 years. The Scientific Diving Program remained active in 2025, with 27 divers completing 411 dives with no reported diving incidents or accidents. Diving activity in 2026 is expected to remain consistent with the previous year, reflecting continued participation and a strong focus on safe scientific diving practices.



UMD scientific divers conducting oyster surveys in the Severn River

SUSTAINABILITY

The Office of Sustainability (OS) supports and advances environmental performance, economic prosperity and social equality through a variety of initiatives. The staff facilitate the development and implementation of sustainable policies, practices and curricula for the campus community. OS also supports the administration of the University Sustainability Council and the University Sustainability Fund, coordinates sustainability-related outreach and education, conducts campus sustainability measurement and reporting, and manages campus sustainability websites and other communications.

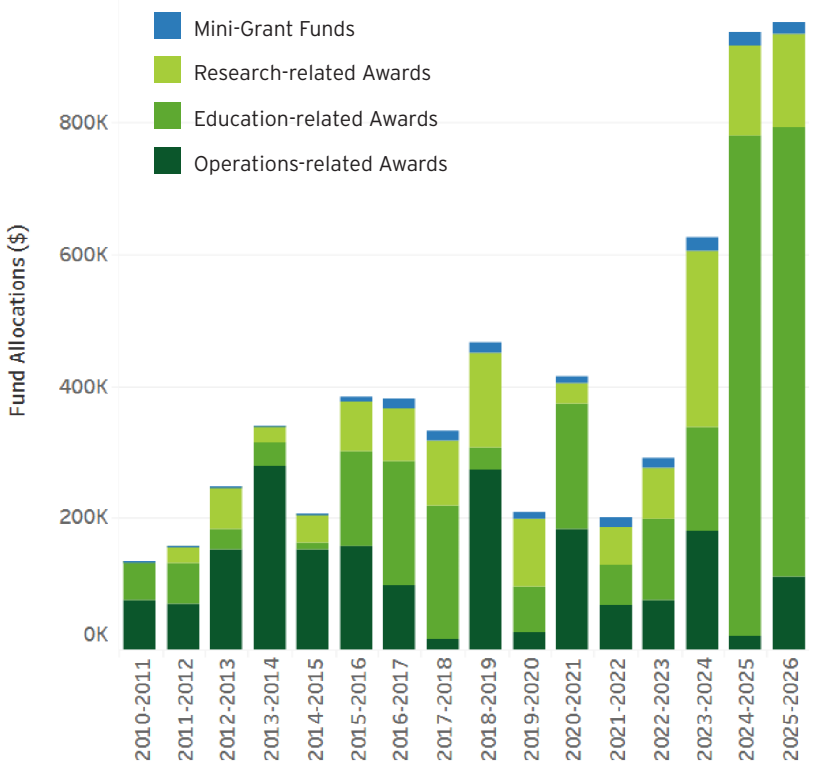
Celebrating 15 Years of Impact

For 15 years, the University Sustainability Fund has directly advanced the university's mission of "taking on Humanity's Grand Challenges" by supporting projects that address wide-ranging sustainability priorities, including strengthening the sustainability workforce, supporting local food production, and advancing climate literacy.

Funded completely by undergraduate student fees, the Sustainability Fund has awarded more than $6.2 million to 350 campus initiatives since 2011. This includes campus fixtures like the Community Learning Garden, ongoing programs like the Office of Sustainability (OS) internship program, and now permanent infrastructure like the Terp Farm.

To celebrate the 15 year milestone, OS gathered recipients, founders, and other stakeholders to celebrate the Fund's impact on research, academics, and operations. Students, staff, and faculty presented posters highlighting project outcomes across campus, including student development, waste reduction, and climate literacy. The story of the Fund and the weight of this milestone is captured in the OS article "Small Fee, Big Impact".

Sustainability Fund and Mini-Grant: Total Award Allocations by Category





Mary Dorman, Executive Director of ESSR, welcomes attendees to the Sustainability Fund's 15th Anniversary Celebration.



Attendees explore project displays highlighting 15 years of Sustainability Fund impact across the University of Maryland.





Faculty and instructors participate in the 2026 Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop, exploring strategies for integrating sustainability into teaching and learning across disciplines.

Advancing Sustainability Literacy Through Faculty Engagement

OS is revitalizing its faculty engagement through three key initiatives: the Sustainability Across the Curriculum (SAC) Workshop, the Green Labs program, and new online resources for instructors.

Faculty and instructors came together at the 2026 Sustainability Across the Curriculum Workshop to discuss ecological literacy, planetary health, environmental impacts of data centers, best practices for effective teaching, cultural sustainability, and more. Following the workshop, attendees devised a strategy for how to incorporate sustainability topics into their courses, through learning outcomes, activities, discussions, or experiential learning opportunities. Complementing these efforts, OS's newly developed online resources provide tailored tips for integrating sustainability across diverse academic disciplines.

The developing Green Labs program provides sustainability education, outreach, and a community of practice for knowledge sharing among faculty researchers.

Collectively, these efforts engage, educate, and inspire faculty to see themselves as sustainability educators and help equip students with the foundational knowledge, interdisciplinary mindset, diverse perspectives and skillsets, creativity, and sense of hope to address pressing sustainability issues.

A New Era of Outreach

In fall 2025, the Office of Sustainability launched a completely new student engagement initiative: the Green Terp Bucket List Challenge (GTBL). Modeled after the university's M Book Challenge, the GTBL is a series of action-based challenges that encourage students to discover places, passions, and people to connect them with sustainability on campus, all whilst earning festive pins and a green cord for graduation.

Since its launch, more than 700 students have enrolled in the challenge, and more than 50 have completed all 20 actions. The program is part of a larger effort to celebrate students' positive actions and build a community of sustainability-minded Terps.



Student participates in a service event as part of the Green Terp Bucket List Challenge.



Office of Sustainability outreach event

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND RISK RESILIENCE

The Office of Occupational Safety and Risk Resilience (OSRR) is comprised of staff responsible for occupational safety, workers' compensation, and property and liability risk management. OSRR works with campus stakeholders to promote a safe work environment, facilitate compliance with applicable federal and state occupational safety requirements, and manage institutional risks related to workplace injuries, property, and liability. OSRR supports the campus community through the development and implementation of safety policies, procedures, training, and consultation with faculty, staff, and campus units. The Office administers the University's workers' compensation program and coordinates the management of property and liability claims, risk assessments, and related insurance matters. OSRR also conducts safety assessments, regulatory inspections, and other activities designed to identify, mitigate, and manage occupational and institutional risk.

Strengthening Safety Through Realignment

As part of a strategic realignment, ESSR welcomed the Facilities Management Safety & Emergency Management team, bringing together the Offices of Occupational Safety & Health (OSH), Risk Management (ORM), and Facilities Management Safety & Emergency Management to establish the new Office of Occupational Safety & Risk Resilience (OSRR). Led by Glynnis Bowman, the newly integrated team brings together diverse skills and experience, strengthening coordination, enhancing service delivery, and promoting operational effectiveness across departmental boundaries. This unified approach supports data-informed decision-making, proactive risk identification, and targeted mitigation strategies to better protect faculty, staff, students, and university property. By leveraging the collective expertise of its team, OSRR fosters collaboration, sustainability, and resilience while reinforcing ESSR's commitment to excellence in serving the University of Maryland community.

Multilingual Safety Communication

OSH expanded access to safety programs, training resources, and outreach materials through the use of AI-assisted translation software. Selected materials were translated or adapted into Spanish, Chinese, Amharic, and Haitian Creole to help our community better understand safety expectations, recognize hazards, use protective measures, report concerns and incidents, and respond appropriately during emergencies. This initiative supports a more inclusive campus safety culture and helps departments communicate safety information consistently across diverse workgroups.

Recognition by the State Employee Risk Management Administration

UMD was recognized by the State Employee Risk Management Administration (SERMA) for an 11% reduction in injuries for 2025. This achievement was supported by precisely targeted, procured engineering controls and the ESSR Incident Cause Analysis and Lessons Learned (ICALL) program, as well as a continually improving safety culture.



UMD receiving the Injury Reduction Award at the SERMA recognition ceremony, May 21, 2026

Outreach Initiatives and Program Development

During FY26, OSH conducted training for 1,629 faculty, staff and students. Topics included Hazard Communication, Fall Protection, Hearing Conservation, Respiratory Protection, Ergonomics, Heat Safety in the Workplace, and Incident Cause Analysis and Lessons Learned.

Safety and Health Management System Assessment

OSH initiated a collaborative effort with ESSR to conduct a safety and health management system assessment which analyzed work activities, work environments, and process controls. The assessment included a gap analysis to identify opportunities to optimize the systems used to recognize, evaluate, and reduce risks to ESSR personnel. The analysis is informing development of a Safety and Health Management System (SHMS) that incorporates management leadership, employee participation, hazard identification and assessment, hazard prevention and control, training, communication,

Safety and Health Management System Assessment continued

program evaluation, and continuous improvement. These elements align with OSHA's recommended framework for effective safety and health programs.

The SHMS will provide a consistent process for identifying the safety and health aspects of ESSR operations, evaluating potential impacts to personnel, and implementing controls that reduce risk. The system will support staff input, inspections, incident and near-miss analysis, corrective-action tracking, and verification that controls remain effective. Although initially focused on ESSR operations, the SHMS framework is intended to serve as a scalable model for other UMD organizations seeking to improve hazard recognition, risk reduction, and overall safety performance.

FIGURE 1: 2025 WORK INJURIES BY MONTH

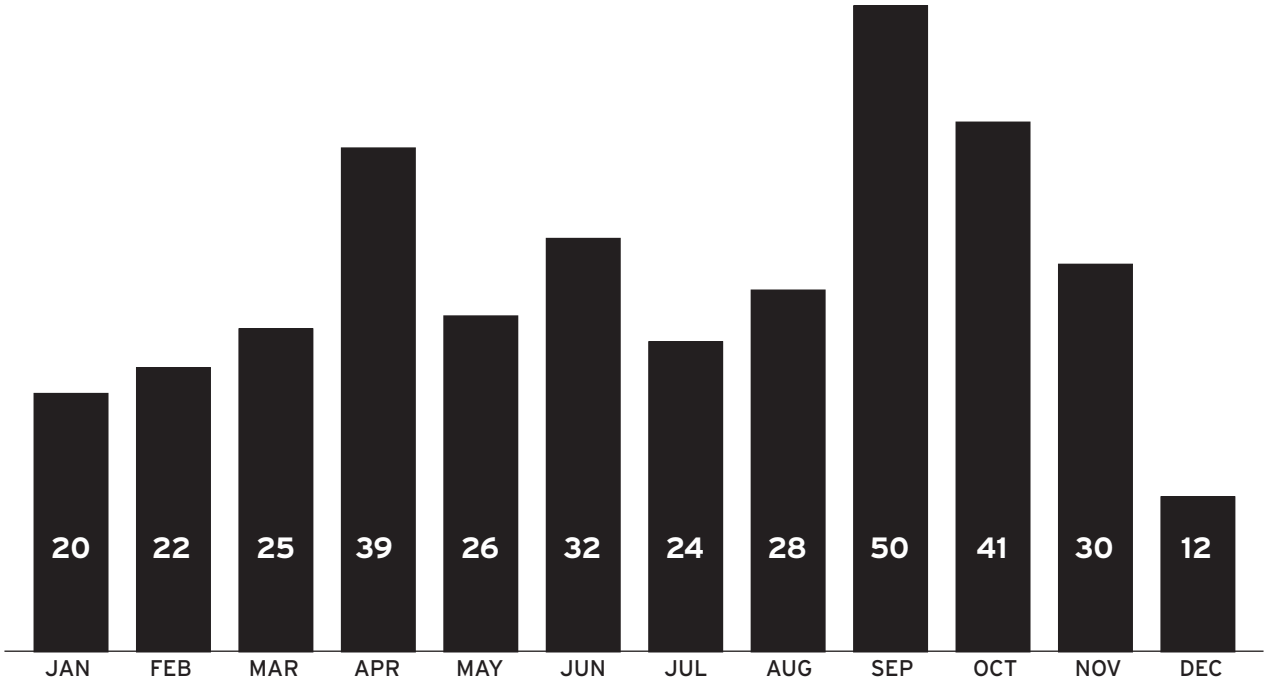


Figure 1: Total claim reports each month in 2025. The university had a total of 349 claims from January to December 2025. The month of December had the least amount of claims at 12 reports, which can be attributed to Winter break and less campus activity. The month of September shows the highest amount of claim at 50 reports, which can be attributed to the Fall Semester and the start of the new school year.

FIGURE 3: TOP 5 CAUSES OF INJURIES

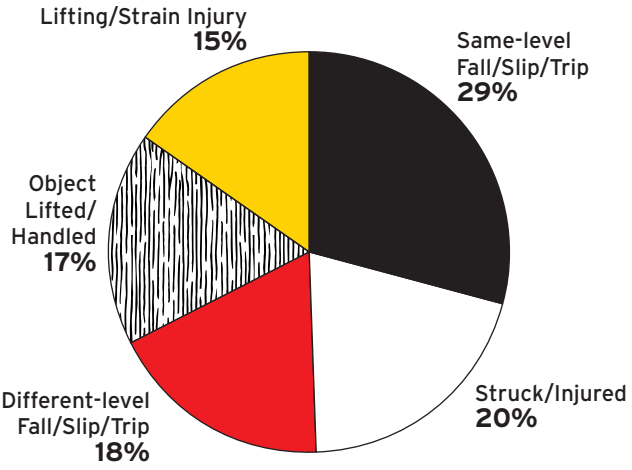


Figure 3: This figure shows what the most common causes of work-place injuries are. The majority of injuries are caused by a fall, slip, or trip, on the same level at 29%.

FIGURE 4: TOP 10 BODY PARTS INJURED

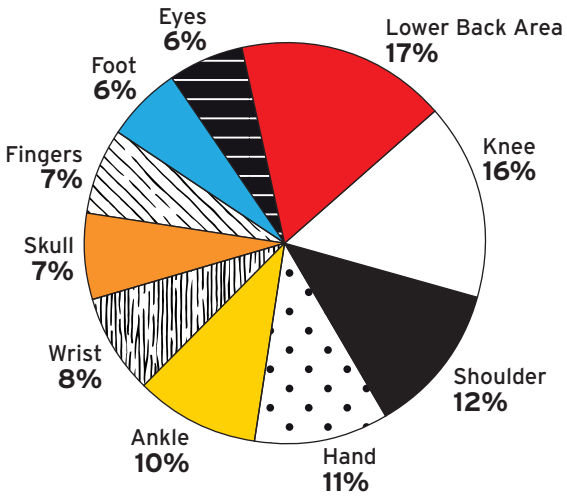


Figure 4: Top 10 Body parts injured. While employees are least likely to have a lifting injury, they are more likely to have suffered a back injury, as a result of an work-place incident at 17%. A close second is a knee injury at 16%.

FIGURE 5: STUDENT ORGANIZATION EVENTS REVIEWED BY RISK RESILIENCE 2023-2026

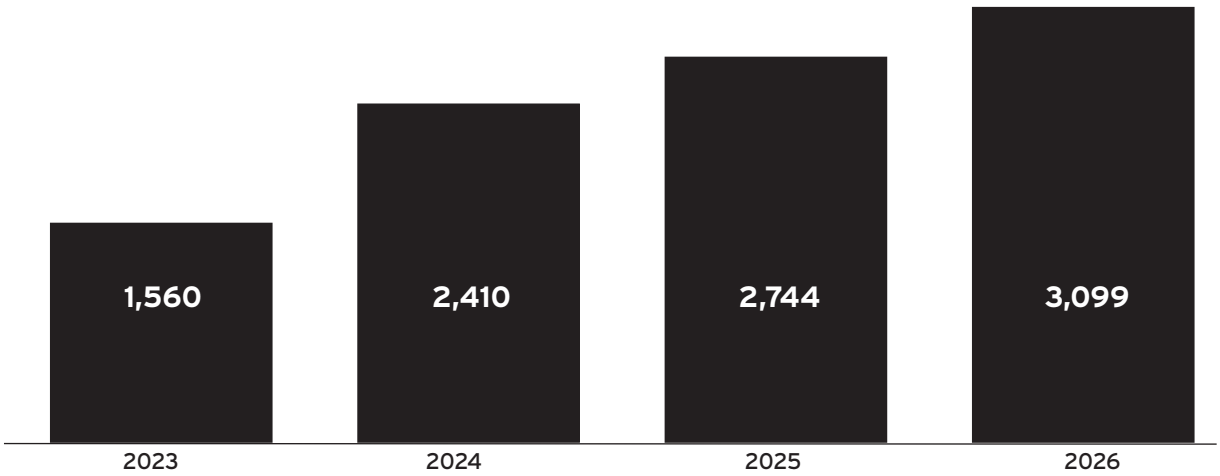
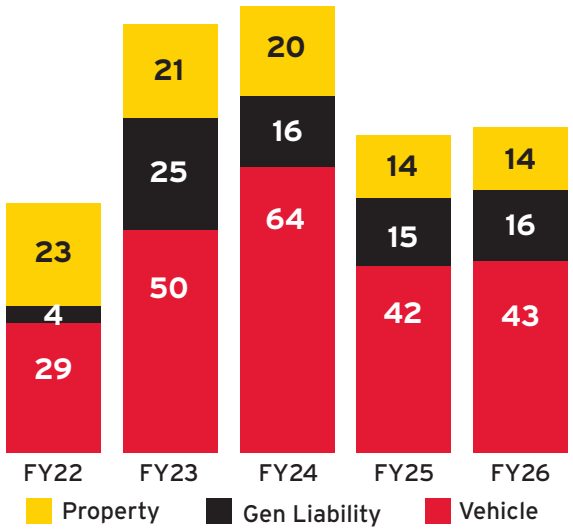
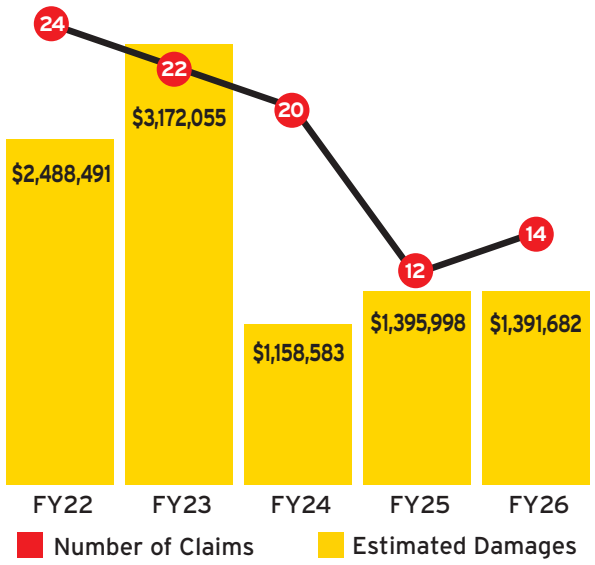


Figure 5: Risk Resilience reviewed 3,099 registered student organization events during the 2025-2026 academic year. Each event was evaluated to determine whether risk mitigation measures, such as liability waivers and commercial insurance, were required. In addition, Risk Resilience provided risk management consultations for several large-scale student events, including TerpThon, Bitcamp, and Technica, to help ensure appropriate measures were in place to reduce the risk of injury and property damage.

INSURANCE PROCESSING CLAIMS FY22-FY26



PROPERTY CLAIMS FY22-FY26



FY26 PROPERTY CLAIMS

Type of Claim	Reason Detail	Number of Claims	Estimated Damages
FLOOD	EQUIPMENT ERROR	6	$705,000
	PIPE FAILURE	4	$172,868
	FREEZING	2	$453,814
FLOOD TOTAL		**12**	**$1,331,682**
WEATHER		1	$30,000
OTHER		1	$30,000
GRAND TOTAL		**14**	**$1,391,682**

FY26 GENERAL LIABILITY

Type of Claim	Number of Claims
TORT INJURY	8
TORT PROPERTY	8
GRAND TOTAL	**16**

FY26 STATE VEHICLE CLAIMS

Type of Claim	Number of Claims
SIDESWIPE	17
REARENDED	12
OTHER	6
BACKING	5
T-BONE	3
GRAND TOTAL	**43**

OFFICE OF TERRAPIN YOUTH PROTECTION

Building the Foundation

Ensuring the safety and well-being of youth participating in university-affiliated activities remained a key institutional priority this year. Significant progress was made toward establishing Terrapin Youth Protection as a comprehensive risk management program designed to support consistent standards, strengthen risk management practices, and advance a culture of safety across the university.

A major milestone was the formation of a cross-functional Youth Protection Steering Committee, bringing together stakeholder expertise from across our institution. Efforts to advance Terrapin Youth Protection were further supported through engagement with university leadership and key campus stakeholders, helping elevate youth protection as an emerging institutional priority.

YOUTH PROTECTION

Supporting Safe and Enriching Youth Experiences

Each year, university faculty, staff, students, and community partners create a wide range of camps, academic enrichment programs, outreach initiatives, and other learning opportunities that connect young people with the university's expertise, resources, and community while fostering learning, exploration, and personal growth. During the summer reporting period alone, more than 13,700 minors participated in university-affiliated internal and external youth programs (excluding 4-H and Extension programs). Across the institution, the university engages well over 100,000 minors annually. Terrapin Youth Protection partners with program leaders to provide guidance, consultation, resources, and risk management support. These efforts strengthened the university's ability to provide safe, positive, and enriching experiences for youth participants and their families.

Summer 2026 by the Numbers

- **3,000**
  Internal Programming Participants
- **10,700+**
  External Programming Participants
- **31**
  Registered Internal Programs (5 Residential)
- **408**
  Adults cleared to work with minors

Leadership Engagement

- Briefed the Council of Deans on Terrapin Youth Protection program development, institutional risks, and strategic priorities (January 2026).
- Presented youth protection opportunities, challenges, and emerging policy considerations to the Campus Incident Strategy Group, including the President, Provost, and senior vice presidents (September 2026).
- Facilitated youth engagement best practices training for staff participating in Admissions Annual Recruitment Training (August 2026).

Developing a University-Wide Youth Protection Policy

In response to evolving institutional needs and the continued growth of youth-serving activities, Terrapin Youth Protection has been formally tasked with developing an interim youth protection policy intended to provide foundational guidance. The policy development process emphasizes stakeholder engagement, proactive risk-based decision making, and practical implementation considerations to support units across the university.

Looking Ahead

As Terrapin Youth Protection continues to evolve, future efforts will focus on advancing policy development, strengthening governance, expanding stakeholder engagement, and enhancing resources that support youth-serving programs across the university.



Megan McWilliams, Youth Protection Compliance Manager, attends BUG Camp at UMD's Bee Lab and participates in an apiary tour.



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, SUSTAINABILITY & RISK

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