



West Texas A&M University

CAMPUS SECURITY AND FIRE SAFETY REPORT

(includes crime statistics for 2007, 2008 and 2009)

A Message from the President

Every day in classes across this campus, students are presented with issues that require them to think, to question, to consider the perspectives of others, to debate, to formulate opinions and theories, to make responsible choices and to be accountable for their words and actions.


I encourage our students, faculty, staff and campus guests to take those same lessons outside the classroom and apply them to your everyday lives.

We are very fortunate here at West Texas A&M University. We live, work and study on one of the safest campuses in the country and Canyon is routinely listed among Texas' safest cities. This reputation is due in large part to the quality of people who live in this area and to our commitment to on- and off-campus law enforcement and other crime-preventing efforts.

Reputation, however, no matter how well deserved, cannot ensure continued health and safety. I urge you to read this report, to take responsibility for yourself and your property, to look out for your friends and colleagues, to attend University-sponsored safety workshops, and to follow common-sense security rules and guidelines.

Together, we will enjoy a safe, healthy and happy year.

Sincerely,


J. Patrick O'Brien
President/CEO

Reporting and Disclosure Procedures

Members of the West Texas A&M University community are encouraged and all faculty and staff members who have significant student- and campus-activity responsibilities are required to report violations of federal, state and local laws and University guidelines. These violations as well as any public safety related incidents should be promptly reported to the University Police Department.

Reporting responsibilities also extend to WTAMU mental health counselors, who may encourage their clients to consider voluntarily and confidentially reporting crimes, when applicable. These and all such reports are compiled and coordinated through the University Police Department and the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Each violation, whether or not a formal police report is filed or an investigation ensues, counts as one offense and is reflected on the University's annual crime statistics report.

This annual report, published by the Office of Communication and Marketing Services, includes statistics on reported crimes, arrests and referrals for violations that occur on campus, in residential facilities, on non-campus University property and on public property contiguous to campus boundaries. All reported violations that have taken place in these designated areas during the previous three years, whether or not a WTAMU student or faculty or staff member was involved, are reflected in the report.

The report is made available to prospective students and employees as well as current students, faculty and staff.

Emergency Operations Plan

West Texas A&M officials take the safety of the University community very seriously and are constantly evaluating the Emergency Operations Plan to ensure it is timely and effective. The University will be implementing mass notification systems on campus to assure campus members are kept informed of any emergencies as well as performing regular drills to test the plans' effectiveness. The University is involved in emergency management planning on all levels, including city, county and state, to address possible responses to disasters which may occur. Mutual aid agreements and contracts are in place to hasten the University's recovery from any type of emergency.

In case of Emergency, call 911.

To report a non-emergency incident, call 806-651-2300.



Safety Check Points

- ✓ Walk with friends in lighted areas.
- ✓ Always lock your car.
- ✓ Park in well-lighted areas.
- ✓ Have your keys ready when you approach your car. Check the front and back seats before entering.
- ✓ Keep your keys secure, lock your room or apartment, and do not leave personal belongings unattended.
- ✓ Engrave your name or identification on personal property.
- ✓ Be alert for strangers.
- ✓ If you are followed, cross the street, change direction and go to a well-lighted public area.
- ✓ Report the loss or theft of keys and valuables immediately to UPD, 806-651-2300.
- ✓ Report crimes, suspicious situations and security concerns immediately to UPD, 806-651-2300.
- ✓ The University Police Department provides on-campus escort service for students, faculty and staff.
- ✓ Call 806-651-2300 to request an escort.

For More Information

For more information about West Texas A&M University guidelines and procedures, refer to the Code of Student Life at wtamu.edu/student-life and click on “Code of Student Life,” request a copy of the publication from the Office of Student Affairs or contact the University Police Department. This publication as well as crime statistics and crime-prevention programs are available on the University’s website at www.wtamu.edu.

Security Education and Prevention Programs

West Texas A&M University offers educational workshops and programs on topics including: anxiety and depression, crime prevention, domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, property theft, smoking cessation and steroid abuse. For drug and alcohol abuse education, tools such as videos, testimonials, beer goggles and the Alcohol 101 CD-Rom program, group activities, assessments from personal counseling and an online interactive course are available.

For a complete schedule or to request a program specific to the interests and needs of your organization, call the Office of Student Affairs, 806-651-2050, or the University Police Department, 806-651-2300.

Missing Student Statement

If a member of the West Texas A&M University community has reason to believe that a student who resides on-campus is missing, he or she should notify the University Police Department (UPD) 911 and the Department of Residential Living 806-651-3000 to investigate whether the student is actually missing.

If UPD determines that the student has been missing for more than 24 hours, then UPD will notify the student’s emergency contact no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. If the missing student is under the age of 18 and is not an emancipated (legal independent status) individual, UPD will notify the student’s parent or legal guardian immediately after the student has been determined to be missing for more than 24 hours.

In addition to registering an emergency contact, students residing on-campus have the option to identify confidentially an individual to be contacted in the event the student is determined to be missing for more than 24 hours. If a student has identified such an individual, UPD will notify that individual no later than 24 hours after the student is determined to be missing. Students who wish to identify a confidential contact can do so through the Department of Residential Living.

Emergency Notification/Crime Alert

The University Police Department (UPD) can transmit emergency warning and/or emergency information via the campus-wide emergency notification system. Strategically placed indoor and outdoor speakers administer an audible tone before broadcasting an emergency message. UPD can also access hybrid message boards placed throughout the high-traffic areas of campus to display messages and warnings. The UPD Chief of Police maintains the authority and protocol to activate the system.

Students, Faculty and Staff are encouraged to sign up for the campus Buff-Alert System, which alerts participants by email, pager and/or cell phone text of any emergency broadcast message. The campus can sign up for Buff-Alert on the homepage of the WTAMU website or at: <http://apps.wtamu.edu/buffalert>

Crime Alerts may be issued on a case-by-case basis pending information received by UPD. A daily crime log is available for review at www.wtamu.edu/police or at UPD from 8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Crime Report, Arrest and Referral Statistics

Crimes Reported	On Campus (residence halls only)			Non-Campus WTAMU Buildings/Property			Contiguous Public Property		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Criminal Homicide									
Murder, Non-negligent Manslaughter	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sexual Offenses									
Forcible	2(2)	2(2)	1(1)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible	0(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	1(0)	2(2)	0(0)	0	1	0	0	0	0
Robbery	0(0)	1(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Burglary	6(3)	6(5)	12(11)	0	0	0	3	0	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	1(0)	0(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	1	0	2
Arson	1(1)	0(0)	0(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrests									
Liquor Law Violations	37(30)	26(17)	32(27)	5	7	27	32	17	50
Drug Violations	4(4)	17(12)	15(14)	2	2	1	4	13	15
Weapon Possessions	0(0)	0(0)	1(0)	0	0	1	1	0	2
Referrals									
Liquor Law Violations	20(17)	0(0)	24(21)	6	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Violations	1(1)	7(7)	2(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weapon Possessions	1(1)	2(2)	7(2)	0	0	0	0	0	0

West Texas A&M University's crime statistics are determined according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's uniform crime reporting standards without regard to guilt or innocence. Statistics reflect reports made to campus security authorities as well as University and local police departments and are compiled and coordinated by the University Police Department and Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Hate Crimes: 2007 - no hate crimes reported; 2008 - no hate crimes reported; 2009 - no hate crimes reported.

According to Texas law, a hate crime is any criminal offense committed against a person or property that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against race, ethnicity, religion, nationality or sexual orientation.

University Police Department

West Texas A&M University police officers are certified Texas Peace Officers and have statewide jurisdiction to enforce local, state and federal laws. The department employs a 24-hour staff of trained dispatchers and patrols and handles all investigations of offenses on the WTAMU campus. If additional on-campus assistance is necessary, a mutual-aid agreement with the City of Canyon and Randall County guarantees quick response.

UPD does not provide law-enforcement services to off-campus residences or meeting sites of recognized University organizations unless specifically requested. Off-campus properties and activities are monitored and recorded by the police agency with jurisdiction of the location.

Campus Access and Security

WTAMU is a public and open campus. No effort is made to restrain the general public from entering the campus; however, the University Police Department reserves the right to bar individuals who are considered a threat to the well-being of the University community. UPD provides 24-hour patrol of campus property and facilities, and designated building coordinators establish and maintain access to respective buildings. The campus is routinely inspected for environmental safety hazards such as insufficient lighting and overgrown shrubbery, and members of the University community are encouraged to report locations of concern.

Major Crimes Reported to Police at Selected Universities in 2008

Institution	Student Population	Total Major Crimes	Population/Crime Ratio
Prairie View A&M University	8382	220	38
Stephen F. Austin State University	11607	231	50
University of Texas--Austin	50170	668	75
Texas Tech University	28260	354	79
Texas A&M University	46542	500	93
Angelo State University	6239	65	95
Texas A&M University--Kingsville	6567	66	99
Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi	8563	71	120
West Texas A&M University	7502	49	153
Texas A&M University--Commerce	8813	55	160

*Information/data for this chart was gathered by the University Police Department from Crime in the United States 2009, Uniform Crime Reports. **The higher the number in the "Population/Crime Ratio" column, the safer the university community.***

Acquaintance Rape

A RAPIST IS NOT ALWAYS A STRANGER attacking late at night in an isolated place. A rapist may sit next to you in class, compete on your intramural team or belong to the same organization. Rape doesn't just conjure up thoughts of a crazed stranger in a dark alley anymore. Date rape is rape.

If You are Raped . . .

Tell Someone

Collect your thoughts, then call:

- 911 or any police department
- University Police Department (911)
- Victim Assistance (806-651-2307)
- Amarillo Rape Crisis Center (806-374-5433)
- WTAMU Student Medical Center (806-651-3287) and/or
- WTAMU Counseling Center (806-651-2340)

Get Medical Care

As soon as possible, seek medical care from a hospital emergency room, the WTAMU Student Medical Center or a private physician. A general exam by a rape/sexual assault nurse at the Northwest Texas Hospital Emergency Room, 806-354-6933, is advised to collect information for documentation of evidence should you decide to prosecute. The exam may also include testing and treatment to help prevent sexually transmitted diseases. Medication to help prevent pregnancy may be administered up to 72 hours after the sexual assault through WTAMU's Student Medical Services.

Report the Rape

It is your decision whether to report the rape; however, most rapists are repeat offenders and your report may prevent future attacks from occurring. University personnel will assist you in notifying the police if needed. If you plan to file a report, do not clean up the area or alter it in any way prior to UPD's arrival, and do not bathe, shower, douche or change clothes prior to the medical examination.

Seek Counseling

The local Rape Crisis Hotline and the WTAMU Counseling Center are staffed with well trained and compassionate counselors. They can assist you in dealing with the emotional trauma and pain associated with sexual assault. University officials will also help you change academic and living situations if that is your choice and such options are reasonably available.

Victim Assistance

The University Police Department employs a victim assistance coordinator who works directly with innocent parties of crime. For more information, call 806-651-2307.

Date Rape

Prevention

CHECKLIST

- ✓ Set sexual limits. You don't "owe" anyone sex. Communicate those limits. People can't read your mind.
- ✓ Trust your feelings. If you feel pressured, you probably are.
- ✓ Pay attention to behavior that doesn't seem right. Power stares, someone who grabs or pushes, someone who doesn't listen or disregards what you are saying, someone who blocks your way, or someone sitting or standing uncomfortably close are all clues that you should stay alert.
- ✓ Be assertive. Get angry and act immediately with a negative response if things seem out of hand. Stand up for yourself. It's OK to make a scene or be rude if someone is pressuring you.
- ✓ Control your environment. Decide whether you want to be in a particular place or not, and don't depend on casual acquaintances for money, shelter, transportation, etc.
- ✓ If you choose to drink alcohol, drink responsibly. Seventy-five percent of date and acquaintance rapes occur when one or both persons are under the influence of alcohol.

West Texas A&M University: A Drug-Free Campus

Alcoholic Beverages

State and federal statutes concerning alcoholic beverages will be strictly enforced on the West Texas A&M University campus and at off-campus WTAMU-sponsored events. In addition to these statutes, the University prohibits possession, consumption and sale of alcoholic beverages on campus or in University public buildings and public areas unless otherwise authorized. Possession of alcoholic containers is also prohibited.

Illicit Drugs

Possession, distribution, consumption and/or use of illicit drugs or narcotics on University property or property under control of West Texas A&M University or at any event sponsored by the University or any University student organization, whether or not conducted on University property, is prohibited. This rule also applies to all illegal paraphernalia utilized in conjunction with the consumption and/or use of prohibited substances.

High Risk Alcohol Intake

People who consume large amounts of alcohol over a short period of time can reach very high blood alcohol levels before they pass out. This can lead to decreased breathing and death. Vomiting associated with high levels of alcohol may also cause choking and death.

How to Help an Intoxicated Friend

Do:

- Keep calm and get lots of help. Individuals with high alcohol-blood levels can be unpredictable and violent.
- Speak in a clear, firm, reassuring manner.
- Stay with a person who is vomiting. If the victim is laying down, turn them on their side, keep the tongue from falling back into the throat and protect them from choking.
- Monitor the person. If they become unconscious (will not wake up or talk to you) or if they appear to have problems breathing, seek medical help immediately. Call 911.

Don't:

- Don't try to walk, run or exercise the person. Don't try to keep them awake.
- Don't force anything orally—food, liquid (coffee, etc.) or drugs—in an attempt to sober them up.
- Don't give the person a cold shower; this can be very dangerous.
- Don't try to restrain the person without lots of sober assistance.
- Don't permit the person to drive.

Health Risks of Alcohol

Health hazards associated with excessive use of alcohol or alcohol dependency include dramatic behavioral changes, retardation of motor skills, and impairment of reasoning and rational thinking. These factors result in a higher incidence of accidents and accidental death for such persons than for nonusers of alcohol.

Nutrition also suffers, and vitamin and mineral deficiencies are frequent. Prolonged alcohol abuse causes bleeding from the intestinal tract, damage to nerves and the brain, psychotic behavior, loss of memory and coordination. Damage to the liver often results in cirrhosis. Other risks include impotence, severe inflammation of the pancreas, and damage to the bone marrow, heart, testes, ovaries and muscles.

Damage to nerves and organs is usually irreversible.

Health Risks of Other Drugs

Use of illicit drugs may lead to physiological and mental changes similar to those caused by alcohol, although changes are frequently more severe and more sudden. Death or coma resulting from overdose of drugs is also more frequent.

Illicit drugs are commonly classified in seven categories: cocaine, amphetamines, heroin and other opiates, hallucinogens, solvent inhalants, steroids, and marijuana.

In addition to adverse effects associated with use of a specific drug, intravenous-drug users who use unsterilized needles or who share needles with other drug users can develop AIDS, hepatitis, tetanus and infections in the heart. Brain damage may also result.

Annual Fire Safety Report

Residence Hall – Emergency/Fire Evacuation Procedures

In the event of an actual fire or a drill, all residents must evacuate the building according to the rules established by each residence hall. Follow the instructions of Residential Living staff, UPD Officers, and/or fire-fighting personnel. Recommended evacuation routes are posted in residence rooms and in the suites in Buff Hall.

Fire alarm pull stations and fire extinguishers are installed throughout the halls. The fire alarm system in each building will automatically notify University Police Dispatch, as well as the local fire department when activated.

When evacuating, the best way out may not be the way in...have an exit strategy (www.haveanexitstrategy.com).

West Texas A&M University is committed to the safety of all residents and is working diligently to maintain a safe environment in the residence halls. A “fire” is defined as *any instance of open flame or other burning in a place not intended to contain the burning or in an uncontrolled manner*. Fire safety rules and regulations are in place, including safe electrical use and the prohibition of smoking, open flame, candles, and incense. Fire drills are scheduled throughout the year and are an important part of the fire safety program at WTAMU. Additionally, hall staff conducts health and safety checks in all residents' rooms throughout the semester. The Environmental Safety Office conducts life/safety inspections and training each semester to identify safety issues and report deficiencies for corrective action.

Our University works closely with the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office to adopt recommended fire safety measures. To report a fire call 911, or if you have any questions or updates, contact the Environmental Safety Coordinator at 806-651-2134 or the Office of Residential Living at 806-651-3000.

Fire Drills



The University will hold fire/evacuation drills to acquaint and train the campus on fire/evacuation procedures. All residents and guests should follow directions during the drills. Failure to evacuate the building may result in disciplinary action, a monetary fine, and possible suspension.

Fire Equipment

Because it is imperative that fire and safety equipment functions properly when it is needed, the following acts are prohibited:

- Tampering, disabling or playing with fire extinguishers, smoke detectors, fire sprinkler heads and exit or emergency lights.
- Tampering with or pulling a fire alarm under false pretense.
- Removing smoke detectors or otherwise rendering a smoke detector inoperable.
- Propping open fire doors.
- Obstructing halls and stairwells with furniture, debris and other materials.
- Hanging objects from smoke detectors or fire sprinkler heads.
- Presence on fire escapes in non-emergency situations.

Residents who jeopardize the security or safety of any person will be subject to severe disciplinary action. Tampering with fire equipment or acts of arson can result in criminal prosecution, disciplinary measures, and/or possible fines.

Open Flame

No items that have open flames, flammable fuels or open coils may be used in a residence hall. This includes, but is not limited to candles, lanterns, heaters, and incense. Violation of this rule may result in immediate relocation and disciplinary action. These items will be confiscated immediately.

Fire Alarm Inspection, Testing, and Certification

Annual inspections, functional testing and certification of fire alarm systems in the Residence Halls are performed in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association; NFPA Fire Code 72 by a licensed fire alarm company.

Fire-related Injury or Death

Fire-related injury or death is when a person is injured or killed as a result of a fire, including injury or death sustained from a natural or accidental cause while involved in fire control, attempting rescue, or escaping from the dangers of a fire. This includes death within 1 year of injuries sustained as a result of a fire. The term person may include students, faculty, staff, visitors, firefighters, or any other individuals.

WTAMU – Residents Hall – Fire Safety Report Statistics 2009

	Conner	Cousins	Stafford	Guenther	Jarrett	Jones	Cross	Buff	Shirley
Fire Alarm System	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sprinkler System	None	None	None	None	None	Partial	Partial	Full	None
Smoke Detection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Portable Extinguishers	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Evacuation Plans	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
# Fire drills/yr.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Fires/Building (2009)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fire Number	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Time	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cause of Fire	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
# people injured	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
# deaths	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
value of property damage	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
case #	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Partial - sprinkler systems only in certain sections of the building.

Full - sprinkler systems throughout the entire building.



Important Contacts

UPD Emergency Dispatch
911

UPD Administration
806-651-2300

UPD Victim Assistance
806-651-2307

Student Counseling
806-651-2340

Student Medical Services
806-651-3287

UPD Escort
806-651-2300

Student Affairs
806-651-2050

Residential Living
806-651-3000

Anonymous Crime Tips
806-374-4400

Text Tips “Crimes”
274637

Poison Control Center
800-222-1222

**Amarillo Rape Crisis/Domestic
Violence Hotline**
806-374-LIFE (5433)

**Sex Offender Registration List
(Texas)**
<https://records.txdps.state.tx.us>

Suicide and Crisis Center
806-359-6699
806-692-4039

Disciplinary Procedures and Sanctions

All violations of federal, state and local laws and University regulations and rules are reported to the University Police Department. Each violation is considered one offense. Once a criminal report is filed with UPD, it is investigated by the Criminal Investigation Division. When a suspect is identified, the case is referred to the Randall County District Attorney’s Office for prosecution.

State and Federal Criminal Penalties are based on language contained in applicable Texas statutes and are subject to change at any time by the Legislature and the Governor. The federal penalties are based on language contained in the applicable federal statutes regarding controlled substances and are subject to change at any time by Congress and the United States President. Title 21 U.S.C Section 860 provides that the federal statutory penalties double (and in some cases triple) when a controlled substance is distributed (or even possessed with intent to distribute) within 1000 feet of a school or a public university.

Aside from the criminal charges, the vice president for student affairs refers the suspect for University disciplinary action. The vice president may choose to hear cases that involve charges of a sexual nature, hazing, cases involving temporary suspension or other cases in which the law may grant authority. If the vice president chooses not to hear a case, a judicial officer or judicial board will be appointed to pursue the case. All disciplinary hearings will adhere to the procedures for notification, evidence, counsel/advisors, burdens of proof, records, findings and appeals as outlined in the current edition of the Code of Student Life. University actions may include but are not limited to monetary fines, university service hours, probation, mandatory participation in specific awareness/rehabilitation programs and/or suspension or expulsion from WTAMU.

In all hearings, both the accused and accuser will have the opportunity to present their versions of the facts, to present other evidence in support of the case including witnesses, and to question evidence presented. In cases of alleged sexual assault, both the accuser and accused will be informed of the outcome of any disciplinary hearing.

For complete procedures and information involving discipline hearings, sanctions, penalties and appeals, refer to the current edition of the Code of Student Life available in the Office of Student Affairs and on the University website at www.wtamu.edu/student-life and click on “Code of Student Life.”

West Texas A&M University serves people of all ages, regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, gender, religion, disability or national origin. West Texas A&M University is an affirmative action/equal employment opportunity institution. June 2010