

## Appropriate Use for Laser Pointers

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Eye related damage can result in temporary flash blindness, glare, and afterimages, or permanent disability.

When used responsibly, Class 1 or 2 laser pointers are safe and exposures to personnel or the general public is generally negligible. Unfortunately this is not always the case. Reports indicate that laser pointers have been aimed into airspace and typically directed at airplanes or at ground transportation vehicles which create unsafe driving conditions for occupants of the vehicle as well as members of the general public. Class 3 or 4

laser pointers are dangerous and are not intended for instructional use by untrained personnel or in uncontrolled environments. Responsible users ensure that safe conditions and practices are maintained and inadvertent exposures to laser radiation are avoided.

All Class 3B or 4 lasers are required to be registered with EHS and subsequently with the Department of Public Health Radiation Control Program. Please contact TEHS at x6-3450 for further instruction or assistance regarding laser safety related concerns or questions.

## Tufts Furniture Fire Code Standards By Wayne Springer

In 2006 a collaborative effort was established to create a university Furniture Fire Code Standard that would comply with the *Massachusetts Fire Prevention Regulations, 527 CMR 29:00, Upholstered Furniture, Molded Seating and Re-upholstered Furniture*. Tufts Finance and Purchasing and the Tufts Chief Fire Marshal along with several other key university contributors developed the Furniture Fire Code Standard. Seating products subject to the standards include upholstered chairs, benches, couches, futons, banquettes, mattresses and solid plastic chairs.

The standards are the *California Bureau of Home Furnishings, Technical Bulletin 133 (1991); Flammability Test Procedures for New Seating Furniture for Use in Public Occupancies, CAL 133 and California Bureau of Home Furnishings Flammability Test for Mattresses, CAL 129 (1992)*. Any furniture used inside any University building must comply with the *California Technical Bulletin 133* and the *CAL TB 133* tag must be affixed to the item. In addition to new

furniture, any used or donated furnishings that are intended to be used inside any University building must comply with the *CAL TB 133*.

- Massachusetts Board of Fire Prevention Regulations, 527 CMR, Section 21:00, Decorations, Curtains, Draperies and Blinds and Other Window Treatments;
- Massachusetts Board of Fire Prevention Regulations, 527 CMR, Section 29:00, Upholstered Furniture, Molded Seating and Re-upholstered Furniture;
- NFPA Standard 101, Life Safety Code, Chapter 10, Interior Finish, Contents and Furnishings;
- NFPA Standard 701, Fire tests for Flame Propagation of textiles and Films;
- Boston Fire Department, Regulation of Upholstered Furniture;
- Boston Fire Department, Application for Installation of Upholstered Seating;

- Boston Fire Department, Decorations, Furnishings and Interior Finishes.

If a student intends to furnish his/her student room or University suite with any of the above mentioned articles, please ensure that they are *CAL TB 133* compliant. Any furniture that is found by the fire inspector to be non-compliant will be posted with a *Fire Safety Notice of Non-Compliance*. The owner will have 48 hours to remove the article. The owner also will be informed by email of the non-compliant furniture and what assistance may be available to comply with the standard.

The university P-Card may not be used to purchase furniture. All furniture is restricted for purchase, unless ordered through the university's Strategic Furniture Partners (link below). The main reason for this is that our partners are aware of the university's Furniture Fire Code Standard. To our knowledge, furniture sold at most major furniture retailers is not CAL 133 compliant.

The Furniture Fire Code Standard is intended to maintain a safe environment for our faculty, staff and students to work, study and socialize. Please help us in this endeavor by complying with the Fire Code policy in the interests of life safety.

[http://finhost.finance.tufts.edu/purchasing\\_th/furniture.htm](http://finhost.finance.tufts.edu/purchasing_th/furniture.htm)



furniture sold  
at most major  
furniture  
retailers is not  
CAL 133