

# Policy regarding dye-related events at University of Missouri

“Dye-related events” are those that use powdered or liquid dyes that are spread, dispersed and/or thrown about among the participants. Examples include color runs and Holi celebrations. Such activities can violate air and water quality standards if mismanaged and are therefore subject to additional precautions. All such activities must be approved by MU Operations (Reservations Office) and MU Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) at least 72 hours in advance. You must adhere to the following requirements:

## Pre-Event Planning

- A responsible person must be designated and have the authority to pause or stop the activity in the event any requirement is not being met.
- Specify on, or draw, a map of your event, and its location on campus.
- Call Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) at 573.882.7018 for clarification on these requirements and/or a pre-event site visit.
- Under no circumstances should these materials be dispersed or thrown into the air such as to create a dispersion beyond the boundaries of the controlled area.

## Preventing Runoff from Entering Storm Drains, Creeks and Protected Areas

- If the event will be held on a small, contained area, cordon off the area and place enough tarps on the ground to cover the entire site. Events may never occur without groundcover in place.
- Protect storm drains by locating the event at least 100 feet away from inlets. EHS can assist with locating storm drains. Storm drain inlets within 200 feet of the event shall be protected with absorbent booms or berms (purchased from EHS) or tarps.
- Require participants not to throw the dye within 300 feet of any storm drain inlet or body of water (streams, lakes, ponds). Entry into any waterway is a violation of MU’s storm water permit.
- Such events may not be held in inclement weather nor when wind speeds exceed 5 mph.

## Dye Ingredients

- Request a copy of the dye product’s SDS (Safety Data Sheet) from the manufacturer or supplier.
- Review SDS for potential safety and environmental hazards, and email a copy to EHS at [environmental@missouri.edu](mailto:environmental@missouri.edu).
- “Biodegradable” or “non-toxic” does NOT mean that the substance is safe to go into the local streams. The dye material can harm aquatic organisms by altering the water quality and chemistry.

## Event Clean-Up

- Dry off tarps and stained wet pavement with towels or absorbent pads.
- For dry powdered dye, collect from tarps and securely BAG for disposal; do NOT use water to rinse dyes from tarps.
- Do NOT use hoses or pressure washers to rinse excess dye off tarps, sidewalks or paved areas!
- Use brooms or street sweepers to clean up paved area.
- Call EHS at 573.882.7018 if you need any help with the clean-up requirements.
- Call EHS at 573.882.7018 immediately if any colored water enters a stream or storm drain inlet. Any remedial costs incurred as a result of dye entering the aquatic system will be the responsibility of the event organizer.
- At the conclusion of the event, the location must be cleaned up and restored to the same conditions that existed prior to the event. Failure to do so may result in a restoration fee to the organizers.