

<b>University of Prince Edward Island Policy</b>	<b>Policy No.</b> Scent-Free Initiative.wpd	<b>Revision No.</b> 1
<b>Policy Title</b> Scent-Free Initiative		<b>Page 1 of 2</b>
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## 1 Purpose

- 1.1 To create scent-free indoor work, study, and play environments at UPEI.
- 1.2 **Scent-free** means the smells or odors from cosmetics (perfume, shampoos, deodorant, make-up, etc.) or from other products such as air fresheners, cleaning products, etc.
- 1.3 The University of Prince Edward Island supports the efforts of the UPEI Health and Safety Steering Committee to promote a scent-free campus.

## 2 Scope

- 2.1 Staff, faculty, students, and visitors of UPEI.

## 3 Policy

- 3.1 In consideration of the difficulties that exposure to scented products cause to sensitive individuals (e.g. triggering asthmatic reactions, migraine headaches); the University expects faculty, staff, students and visitors to avoid the use of scented personal care products. Eliminating the use of scented personal care products is a matter of courtesy to those with whom we share our indoor work and study environments. Health problems that result from poor indoor air quality are often triggered by exposures that most people would have considered harmless only a few years ago.
- 3.2 It is impractical to contemplate operating a modern university entirely without any chemical exposure. On the other hand, we have come to accept chemical exposures that we could actually avoid. Avoiding these exposures will require efforts by the University and individual staff, faculty, students, and visitors.
- 3.3 Using unscented custodial products is clearly a quality control issue that should be easily assessed by management in terms of availability, cost and effectiveness. Addressing the control of other classes of chemicals, some of which may also be harmful to sensitive individuals, needs on-going discussion and education within departments across the University.

3.4 There will be a few people who will see this policy as an intrusion into their personal lives, but the health of people should take precedence. It is believed that the University community is truly supportive of the health of others. As a consequence, it is expected that persuasion, education and cooperation will bring about the needed changes in personal behavior. In most cases, it is expected that such an approach will be much more successful than one based upon regulation and enforcement.

3.5 Scented products to be restricted, reduced, and/or eliminated:

3.5.1 Scented personal care products including: perfume, cologne, body sprays, aftershave lotion, deodorant, hair care products, hand and body soaps and lotions, makeup, shaving cream, sun screen, laundry soap, fabric softeners, air fresheners, scented candles, etc.

3.5.2 Chemicals released by custodial activities.

3.5.3 Other artificially scented products.

3.6 Communication

3.6.1 UPEI's Scent-Free Initiative will be communicated mainly through employee and student orientation, signage, and the UPEI Health and Safety website. The website will have a section with Questions and Answers, information on How to Handle "Scent Sensitive" Situations, and information about health effects related to scented personal care products. Please visit <http://www.upei.ca/hr/health-and-safety/policies-and-forms> for further information.

#### **4 Reference**

4.1 The *Indoor Air Quality Policy* can be found at:  
<http://www.upei.ca/hr/health-and-safety/policies-and-forms>

The *UPEI Indoor Air Quality Complaint Form* is located at:  
<http://www.upei.ca/hr/health-and-safety/policies-and-forms>