

»»» STOP THE PROP



Safety Snap!



RISK MANAGEMENT AND SAFETY

With all of the threats and challenges facing facility management today, maintaining our physical security is critical. We attempt to control access by locking most doors to ingress and routing traffic through specific doors. All it takes to breach the most secured building, is one locked door left propped open.



»»» THINGS TO LOOK FOR

Check exterior doors regularly.

- Monitor limited-access doors that have frequent unauthorized use.
- Check doors that are in convenient areas for parking lot access.
- Identify doors with faulty push bars, do not self close, or have lock sets that can be opened without a key.

»»» FIRE CONCERNS

Spaces often become cluttered from lack of housekeeping and organization. Excess materials, such as books, papers, boxes, or Styrofoam increase a building's fire load. This excess material presents a safety hazard to staff, students, and visitors.



The National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) recommends keeping unnecessary materials to a minimum to maintain a safe and well-organized space.

»»» LAB SAFETY CONCERNS

Propping open laboratory doors is another common habit in research labs, usually for the convenience of moving from one lab to another.

The use of doorstops, wedges, or other types of hold-open devices is not permitted by NFPA Fire Code. Doors that are designed to self-close must be allowed to close.

Laboratory building ventilation design is intended to prevent the air in chemical and biological labs from flowing into the hallways and corridors.



WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE A PROPPED DOOR

Check to see if the door is currently in use by someone in the vicinity. If there is someone around, be sure to request they remove the prop as soon as they are done with their activity. If nobody is present, remove the door prop and check the door to ensure it has latched completely and is now secured.

You may also enter a Good Catch. Simply take a picture of the door with prop to include on the form and provide a description of the door's location.