

Savannah River Site



Safe and Secure

The Savannah River Site Point of Entry Briefing



National Security | Clean Energy | Environmental Stewardship

Welcome to the Savannah River Site.

Whether you are a visitor or an employee, you should know that safety is a core value at SRS.

By familiarizing yourself with our safety and security rules, you'll join the thousands of SRS workers whose top priority is creating an injury-free and accident-free workplace.

Our safety slogan, "Safety begins with me," is not just a catch-phrase; our employees take this message seriously. If we see something unsafe, we say something for safety.

The cornerstone of the SRS safety program is the individual right of every employee, including subcontractors, to call a "time out" if they observe safety being compromised. This principle is the most powerful means of guaranteeing employee safety at SRS. Adherence to applicable safety policies, rules and warnings is mandatory.

Safety: It involves everyone!

The success of the Savannah River Site (SRS) depends on the safety of all employees and the protection of the public and the environment.

To achieve our safety and security goals, SRS uses Integrated Safety Management to ensure a safe and clean working environment for employees, visitors, vendors, subcontractors and the public.

Every employee has the responsibility to correct any unsafe act or condition and/or notify their supervisor as soon as possible. All employees are expected to accept responsibility for their personal safety, and the safety of others.

During your visit at SRS, your host is responsible for informing you of any/all hazards that pertain to your visit. Your host will also assist in mitigating those hazards to ensure a safe work in environment. Again, safety is a core value at SRS.

Vehicle Access

A valid driver's license, vehicle registration and proof of insurance is required at SRS, regardless of the state in which you live.



SRS policies identify specific plans for accidents that could occur at the Site. Special actions are required in the event of an emergency. Emergency signals used at SRS and the appropriate responses to these signals include:

Nuclear Incident Alarm

Evacuate the immediate area, walk briskly and follow your escort or other employees to the nearest designated rally point.

Fire Alarm

Evacuate the building, walk briskly to the nearest exit and follow your escort or other employees to the designated rally point.

Emergency Alarm Signal

Safely stop and listen to the public address announcement. If you cannot hear, follow your escort to a location where you can safely hear the announcement. If you see anyone who did not hear the announcement, inform them of the protective action instructions.

Consult with your host/escort for instructions and familiarize yourself with rally points and actions. If you're not certain what action is required, ask for directions from someone in the area.

General safety rules

- Do not become involved in a work activity that could compromise your safety or the safety of others as a result of not being properly trained, qualified or authorized to assist.
- Do not attempt to operate special tools or equipment unless you are trained, qualified and authorized to operate the specific tool or equipment.
- In all cases, if something out of the ordinary happens or a particular work activity does not go as expected, call “time out,” pause and reassess the situation.
- Do not proceed with any task until you are certain the job can be completed safely.
- Ask for help or clarification if unsure about your safety or the safety of others regardless of the situation.
- Obey all warning signs, barricades and other safety notices. Obtain permission before entry into a barricaded area.
- No smoking is allowed in any SRS buildings or government vehicles.
- Report any injuries, incidents, near-misses or unsafe conditions immediately to your escort, supervisor or the person responsible for your visit or work scope.



Who is in charge?

Have someone identified at the Site location or the work site that is responsible for your visit or directing your work activities. Share any potential for injury with your escort including what controls you have in place to minimize or eliminate a possible injury.

- Every worker has the responsibility and authority to call a “time out” if they believe that work being performed is not being done safely.
- Walking: Do not take shortcuts. Stay on sidewalks or other designated walking surfaces. Walk, do not run.
- Proper work attire/clothing: If your task involves manual work in the field, your work clothes should consist of full-length pants or trousers and a shirt or blouse with sleeves that extend at least three inches below the shoulder that does not expose any portion of the torso from the neck to the waist.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.



Equipment and vehicles

Equipment safety

Be sure the equipment, material and tools you bring or use on the Site are in safe operable condition. Do not bring defective equipment on Site. Ask yourself if your equipment, materials and tools are in good working order and in a serviceable condition to be used safely for all work you will be doing. You may encounter heavy equipment in some areas of the Site.

Heavy equipment operation

Consider the following: Use caution and do not enter areas where heavy equipment is being operated unless you are authorized. No self-propelled equipment (backhoes, trackhoes, bulldozers, etc.) may be loaded or off loaded from trucks, trailers or similar equipment without first informing your host and requesting the appropriate checklist if required.

Material trucks

If the bed of your vehicle requires access by power equipment at loading docks, chock the wheels of your vehicle when you park. Never walk, work or place any part of your body under suspended loads. Stay a safe distance from moving equipment and material to avoid potential pinch or crush hazards. Never throw tie-down straps, buckles, chains or other material to the other side of your vehicle during loading or unloading operations unless someone stands clear and confirms it is safe to do so.

Maintenance and service

Do not perform maintenance, service or operate any heavy equipment unless you are qualified and authorized to do so.

Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) includes hard hats, gloves, hearing protection, safety glasses with side shields and proper foot protection. Other specialized PPE may be required where specific hazards or environmental conditions warrant additional protection. Hard hats and safety glasses with side shields are required in designated work areas and in other areas where posted.

With the exception of office and administration areas, safety shoes are required depending on the area accessed or the work you are performing.

Hearing protection is required in areas where the noise level exceeds 85 decibels in an eight-hour time period. Many areas are posted but if in doubt, ask.

Gloves should be used when appropriate to protect the hands and fingers depending on the work being performed.

If you do not have the necessary PPE, STOP and do not proceed until the proper PPE is secured and you have been briefed on its proper use.

Do not use defective or improperly fitting PPE for any task. Notify your host/escort immediately in the event of a problem. You are responsible for securing appropriate and serviceable PPE.

Always confirm up front with your supervisor or your host/escort what PPE is required for your work, activity or area you will be visiting. If you later have questions, stop work and re-confirm what is required.



Driving rules and hand-held electronic devices

Driving: Obey all posted speed limits and traffic signs on all SRS roadways and parking lots. Remember, South Carolina laws apply. Adjust your driving for the weather such as fog, rain, reduced visibility, etc. If you become lost, stop where it is safe to do so and ask for directions or call 3-3911 from a Site phone or 803-725-1911 from a cell phone. Parking is only allowed in designated parking spaces.

Hand-held electronic devices: All hand-held electronic devices such as cell phones, personal digital assistants (PDAs), Blackberrys, PalmPilots, global positioning systems (GPSs) and pagers, as well as installed electronic devices requiring manual data input such as GPS devices, **may not be used while driving** vehicles that are personally owned, government owned, or government leased.

If you need to use one of these devices, pull off the road when it is safe to do so and shift the vehicle in “park” before using the device.

Use of “hands-free” devices such as Bluetooth phones may be used only at a minimum, in order to avoid distracted driving.



Remote workers

A remote worker is any worker within the SRS boundaries who is beyond range of an installed safety alarm system. This does not include persons in transit via Site roadways or workers performing assignments in routinely occupied buildings.

All remote workers are to maintain communications with a designated dispatcher via SRS two way radio or remote worker pager and cell phone. They are required to identify who they are, where they are working and duration (start/stop times) of their work.

Remote workers who do not have or are unsure of their designated dispatcher should call the Savannah River Site Operations Center (803-725-2255).

Remote workers who are found in violation of the requirements will be escorted from their work site.

Questions regarding remote worker procedures should be directed to your Site host/escort.

Radiological safety

SRS is a key Department of Energy industrial complex dedicated to the stewardship of the environment, the enduring nuclear weapons stockpile, and nuclear materials. In support of national defense and U.S. nuclear nonproliferation efforts, SRS processes and stores nuclear materials. The Site also develops and deploys technologies to improve the environment and treat nuclear and hazardous wastes left from the Cold War. Because we work so closely with nuclear materials, it is possible that an individual could be exposed to radiation or radioactive material. Strict controls are in place to minimize harmful exposures.

Although the primary mission at SRS is changing from one of production to one of waste management and environmental restoration, SRS policies for protecting employees, visitors, the general public and the environment have not changed. SRS policy is to maintain personnel radiation exposure to a level that is As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA). Radiation exposure of the work force and the public is controlled so that radiation exposures are well below regulatory limits and that there is no radiation exposure without overall benefit.

SRS management is responsible for ensuring the overall safety of site workers and visitors. Some of your responsibilities during this visit include obeying all signs and postings; following the directions of your escort(s); and complying with all radiological and safety rules. Specific facilities may have additional or more stringent requirements based on current conditions. An additional briefing may be required that includes more information on applicable radiological protection procedures, applicable emergency signals and appropriate responses, and personnel to contact in case of a problem.

Controlled Areas and Radiological Postings:

SRS uses signs and specific barriers to control access to various radiological areas. All areas associated with radiological conditions at SRS are clearly identified.

The identification system includes signs and ropes with specific colors and symbols. Yellow and magenta coloring and/or the international radiation symbol are used to identify areas controlled for radiological purposes.

Visitors to SRS must be escorted at all times while within areas posted as a Controlled Area with the exception of those who have received General Employee Radiological Training.



Visitors are not allowed entry into radiological areas or **Radiological Buffer Areas** within the **Controlled Areas** without an escort. Additional



entry requirements may apply, and it is the responsibility of your host/escort to understand these requirements and ensure you meet them.

Personnel Dose Limits: SRS has established a radiation dose limit of 100 millirem each year for visitors. This amount is less than the average annual dose that the general public receives from natural background sources and man-made sources of radiation. Natural background sources include cosmic rays, terrestrial sources (including radon) and sources within the human body. Man-made sources include medical x-rays, nuclear medicine and consumer products. The public receives an average of 620 millirem each year from these sources.

Risk Considerations: At the radiation dose limits established for visitors, the risks are very small, if any, and lower than the risks we accept as part of everyday living (e.g., driving a motor vehicle, smoking or working as a construction worker.) The natural cancer incidence rate makes it impossible to measure any potential risk of fatal cancers due to low-level radiation exposures.

According to the data furnished by the National Academy of Sciences, a single whole body dose of 10,000 millirem delivered to a large population of persons of all ages could result in an increased risk of fatal cancers of less than 1 percent. There have been no genetic effects clearly caused by radiation exposure observed in human populations. However, high radiation doses (much higher than you will encounter during your visit) have been associated with health effects in developing fetuses. If you are pregnant and would like more information, please notify your host/escort or contact the Radiological Protection Department.

Training: SRS has strict training requirements for personnel who routinely enter areas controlled for radiological purposes. Management identifies those personnel whose job assignments require access to these areas. Workers who routinely enter areas controlled for radiological purposes are known as Radiological Workers. Radiological Workers require special training on safety rules, procedures and techniques for minimizing their exposure to radiation and radioactive materials. During your visit, you may see postings at the entrance to Radiological Buffer Areas (RBA) which indicate that dosimetry, such as a Thermoluminescent Dosimeter

(TLD), and sign-in on a Radiological Work Permit (RWP) is required. These warnings may not apply to visitors who will only be on site for a brief period since the amount of dose received in the RBA would be too low to monitor. Facility Safety and Health Managers evaluate the issuance of individual dosimetry and RWP sign-in requirements for visitors on a case-by-case basis. Should you need to be monitored for radiation exposure, you must complete OSR 5-145, Personal Occupational Radiation Dose History, to report any dose you have received during the current year and to provide the information needed to report exposure results back to you.

In the event you are issued dosimetry:



- Wear the TLD in the chest area with the window facing out
- You are responsible for controlling the TLD from exposure to radiation when not worn
- Do not allow it to pass through x-ray machines
- Report any such exposure and any damage to the TLD to your escort and the Facility RP Office

Ensure you return the TLD to your escort before leaving SRS. Exposure reports are normally mailed around the middle of the month following your visit. If you need dose information before or after that date, you may obtain your dose by sending a request to Dosimetry Records, Building 735-B, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC 29808.

If you have had a medical treatment in the last 30 days that involved radioisotopes, inform your escort and the Facility RP Office prior to entering any area controlled for radiological purposes as this could interfere with your ability to be monitored for radioactive material.

SRS Security

To protect workers and government property, SRS maintains a high level of security. At SRS, you will encounter Security Police Officers of WSI, Savannah River Site (WSI-SRS) in numerous locations. Understanding our security practices will help your visit go smoothly.

Identification for Badging: All visitors must be badged through SRS Visitor Control, located in Building 703-46A. Two forms of identification must be presented before the badge can be issued. Photo identification in the form of a driver's license or state or federally-issued ID is mandatory; the other form should contain your legal name (e.g., Social Security card, passport, birth certificate, voters registration, etc.). Examples of IDs that are not accepted include credit cards, insurance cards and fishing licenses.

Escorts: Visitors must be accompanied at all times by an escort with an appropriate security badge when entering a security area. Please stay with your escort at all times. Visitors are not required to be escorted on the general Site Property Protection Area (PPA). Your escort will identify these areas if applicable.

Site Access: Visitors bringing a vehicle on SRS property must have in their possession a valid driver's license, proof of vehicle insurance and proof of registration.

Scope of Authority: A security violation is a deliberate act involving serious crimes such as espionage, sabotage or theft of government property. Any person convicted of a security violation is subject to federal penalty or punishment. Security Police Officers have the authority to carry firearms and to make warrantless arrests for certain federal crimes. They also have the same legal authority as any other South Carolina law enforcement authority. Visitors to SRS who encounter security problems must advise their SRS host/escort.

Prohibited Items

Some items are not allowed inside the SRS boundary including firearms (including toy or simulated guns) and ammunition, alcoholic beverages, explosive materials, hand-held weapons, unmanned aerial systems (UAS), illegal drugs and items prohibited by state and federal law.

Other items that are not allowed in security areas (Limited Areas and higher) include copying devices, electronic recording devices, cameras and undeveloped film and knives with blades over three inches long.

Requests to bring personally owned or vendor owned electronic equipment on Site must be approved by Computer and Information Security prior to arrival (CPC 17, Special Hardware/ Software Authorization, OSR 10-296) and are subject to restrictions. Cellular phones are allowed on the general Site and in PPAs with some restrictions.

Inspections

Visitors' vehicles will be inspected at the Site barricade by Security Police Officers and K-9 teams. When you enter Site personnel control points, the officers must touch your badge to confirm your identification. Also, they may inspect any of your hand-carried items, such as purses or briefcases.



National Security | Clean Energy | Environmental Stewardship

Thank you for your attention to our “point of entry” safety and security briefing. With your help, the Savannah River Site will continue to be an injury-free and accident-free workplace.



The Savannah River Site is owned by the U.S. Department of Energy.
The management and operating contractor is
Savannah River Nuclear Solutions, LLC.

SRS Badge Office

803-725-3347
803-725-3348

SRS Emergency

3-3911

Emergency Cell Phone

803-725-3911