

Laser Policy

The purpose of the Laser Policy is to protect employees from hazards associated with lasers, and to ensure compliance with New Hampshire Department of Labor Standard 1403.31 Lasers.

A. Employee Responsibilities

Only employees who have had training by the employer or equipment manufacturer shall be assigned to install, adjust, and operate laser equipment. Employees shall wear appropriate eye protection designed to safeguard against potential exposure to laser light greater than 0.005 watts (5 milliwatts).

Beam shutters or caps shall be utilized, or the laser should be turned off when the laser transmission is not actually required. When the laser is left unattended, for example: lunch hour, overnight, or at shift changes, the laser shall be turned off.

Employees shall not be exposed to light intensities above the following:

- Direct staring – 1 micro-watt per square centimeter;
- Incidental observing – 1 milliwatt per square centimeter;
- Diffused reflected light – 2 ½ watts per square centimeter.

Employees shall not be exposed to microwave power densities in excess of 10 milliwatts per square centimeter.

From the Town of Amherst's Policy and Procedure Manual, 2009.