

Respirator Fit Testing at Mid-Atlantic 2024

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Respirator fit testing will be available for free at the Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention (MAFVC) in Hershey, PA, from noon until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 30th, and 8:00 AM until noon on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Individuals must bring their own respirator and should be clean shaven to receive a fit test. Testing takes about 10 minutes to perform and provides you with confidence that your respirator seals properly and is working as planned, keeping you safe from inhalation of hazardous chemicals.

To take advantage of this service, one must be a registered attendee of the 2024 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention. Once registered for the convention, click on the link at the MAFVC 2024 web site (<https://mafvc.org/>) or visit <https://bit.ly/mafvc2024-respirator-fit-test> to schedule a specific appointment for your fit test.

The registration process is simple, with instructions provided on the sign-up page to guide you through the process if you get stuck. The only information you must provide is your name. If you are an employer registering several employees, please choose a separate time slot for each individual.

Those not wishing to provide an email address or unable to use the internet can make a reservation, change their reservation time, or delete their reservation by contacting Shane Williams at (814) 863-9606 / stw5035@psu.edu or Daniel Weber at (717) 334-6271 / daniel.weber@psu.edu. For questions about how the test and how it is conducted, please contact Shane.

Advance registration for the fit test will guarantee you a test time. While walk-ins will be accepted, priority will be given to preregistered individuals and fit testing of walk-ins is not guaranteed (though experience has shown that walk-ins always get tested).

Although providing an email address is optional, if you enter one when registering a confirmation receipt will be sent recording your reservation. The receipt also includes a self-service link that allows you to change your reservation time or delete your reservation if needed. You will also receive a reminder email two days prior to your fit test.

Ensuring a proper fit with your respirator is just one way of keeping you safe and healthy. When combined with proper training, personal protective equipment (PPE), and a medical test, you can apply chemicals labeled as requiring a respirator with confidence, knowing that your health is protected and that you are meeting the new Worker Protection Standards. For more information about fit testing and who should consider registering for this service at Mid-Atlantic, read the "Respirator Fit Test" overview by Jim Harvey, Penn State Educational Program Specialist, at <https://extension.psu.edu/respirator-fit-test>.