

University of Kansas Medical Center
Water Events in Cates East: January 2010 - August 2025

Date	Location	Description
10/27/2012	Cates East 6020	<p>On October 27, 2012, at 7:58 AM, Steve Hennesy with Night Maintenance was notified by KU Police Department of a leak in Wahl Hall East. Mr. Hennesy responded and found an extensive leak affecting the Southern area of the sixth floor. Mr. Hennesy shut the valve off controlling water to the leaking water line and notified me at 8:44 AM of the situation. Mr. Hennesy explained that a lab sink eyewash water line had separated at the fitting and flooded areas of the South end of 6th, 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd, 1st, and ground floors. I contacted Jeff Lockington and advised him of the situation. I responded to assess the situation.</p> <p>Upon my arrival I found water coming out of the building on the East side of Wahl Hall East near the South doors to Lied building. I responded to the sixth floor and found Mr. Hennesy beginning the cleanup on the flood. Mr. Hennesy walked me thru what he knew and showed me the damage. I contacted Jeff Lockington and Wade Bestgen and asked both to come in to assist. Ronn Fowler called and I advised him of the situation. Steffani Webb was on campus and I met with her on site. Ms. Webb contacted Mike Rosenberg, University Risk Manager, and advised him of the situation. Ms. Webb also advised Lab Staff of the situation so they could respond to assist with protecting their research. I contacted James Hawthorne and asked him to assist with the flood and Jeff Lokington called Kevin Prosser to assist also.</p> <p>The passenger and freight elevators in Wahl Hall East were not working, water was seen and heard in the elevator shafts and the cars were stopped on ground and first floors respectively. I contacted Kone and had a serviceman sent to make repairs.</p> <p>On the sixth floor, Lab 6020, where the floor began, there was water damage to the floor area. A 3/8 inch water line to the eyewash sink had seperated inside the cabinet at the end of one of the lab counters. Mostly those items on the floor appeared water damaged. On the fifth floor, the water rained down though out most of this lab and the office areas around room 5020. This room was the hardest hit as most items on the lab counters were affected. Electronic equipment, computers, lab notes, etc. all were wet. Water was coming out of light fixtures, cabinets and off of counters, flooding this floor. The fourth floor was not as bad as the fifth but still had heavy flows of water coming down. There were researchers in this lab whom I empowered to start protecting their work and equipment, which assisted in helping control damage. The third floor was having water coming down into it but the amount of water was much less than the three floors above. I again asked for assistance from lab staff to help in covering equipment and protecting their research. As you continued down to second, first and ground floors the amount of water coming down was much less severe.</p> <p>Staff and researchers began cleaning up the water and getting items off the floor. Serve Pro was contacted at the direction of Mike Rosenberg to be used as an outside contractor to assist with the cleanup. Mr. Rosenberg responded to assess the damage. Several representatives from Serve Pro responded and began the process of water extraction and cleanup, which is progressing well. Steve with Kone responded and began repairs on the passenger elevator. At the time the computer board was visibly damaged, the cover had not been placed over the motor and control board and water had shorted the board out. A large black burn mark was clearly visible. Night Maintenance was advised to monitor the area over night. Cleanup operations will continue though out the weekend with the goal to have the labs functioning by Monday.</p>
7/20/2015	Cates East 5020	Water supply line to sink broke. Labs on the South end of Wahl East on 5th, 4th, and 3rd floors affected.
11/27/2020	Cates East 6020	We had a DI water line break and leak in 6020 Wahl East. We have the water shut off and the leaked stopped. We are cleaning up the water now. 6020, 5020, and 4020 were affected. Lab personnel for 4th floor are here.
11/11/2021	Cates East 2020	<p>We had a water leak from the DI water system in Wahl East 2020 (Dr. Jensen's lab) this morning. The water was leaking from a couple of the filters. We shut the water off to this unit and unplugged it. The leak affected a small portion of Dr. Cheng's lab in 1020, and some ceiling tile outside the offices in G011 G013. Thankfully, no equipment or lab bench contents were impacted, and no offices on the ground floor got wet. In the 2020 and 1020 labs, some boxes on the floor got wet.</p> <p>There were some lab personnel in these areas that assisted us. Please contact Cobb to service the DI water system. All these areas are under control and the spaces are dry.</p>
11/29/2021	Cates East 2005	We found the DI-H2O leaking in WHE2005 this morning. I shut off the water source, but the entire floor in the east side is flooded. I will send a message to the Fabian and Behbod labs (1st Floor) to let them know to be on the lookout. We have cleaned up and extracted the water on the second floor and a little on the first.