

THE SEED SOWER

OU Facilities Management Quarterly Newsletter



Message from the AVP

OUFM Team Members,

Summer has finally arrived! As always, I want to begin my comments by thanking each team member who contributes to the success of OU Facilities Management. While your efforts may go unnoticed by some, they are an important component of our university's operations.

I enjoyed seeing everyone at the safety breakfast and rodeo. Special thanks to those who took the time to develop a booth and share valuable safety information with your fellow team members. The creativity and ingenuity shown were awesome, and I cannot wait to see what you all come up with next year.

The days are becoming shorter, and so is the time before students return for the start of the fall semester. Now is the time to begin finishing our summer work orders and projects. Special emphasis should be placed on areas where we cannot easily work once classes resume. The next newsletter will highlight multiple summer projects that will enhance our community's experience on campus. Thank you for everyone's hard work!

*Be Safe,
Matthew C. Rom
Associate Vice President for Facilities Management*

UPCOMING DATES

INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY

July 4th

QUARTER 3 AWARD NOMINATIONS DEADLINE

July 7th

BIOMETRIC SCREENINGS AT 705

August 2nd

FRESHMEN MOVE-IN

August 8th - 10th

FALL 2023 CLASSES BEGIN

August 21st

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

September 4th

RETIREMENTS

Robert Spoon- July 1

Robert Kent- September 1

Have an idea for the next quarterly newsletter? Email Facilities@ou.edu with your idea!

FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS



TEAM MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Craig Carley



Craig Carley recently completed the department's Safety Recognition Program. Craig was honored with his plaque at Utility's leadership meeting on June 14. By completing the program, Craig also receives a \$500 supplement.

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES

1 YEAR

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Mason Cox | 04/11/22 |
| Leland Cox | 04/24/22 |
| Addason Mercer | 04/24/22 |
| Trent Eisenman | 05/09/22 |
| Zackary Moore | 05/16/22 |
| Zachariah Blanchard | 05/23/22 |
| Phillip Lee | 05/23/22 |
| Shelby Rubrecht | 06/06/22 |
| Charlie Keller | 06/27/22 |

5 YEARS

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| Cayman Webster | 05/12/18 |
| Johnathan Harper | 05/07/18 |
| Noah Stewart | 03/26/18 |
| Robert Peshel | 03/26/18 |

10 YEARS

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Angela Maddux-Tannehill | 04/29/13 |
| Olga Modesto | 06/03/13 |
| David Mangus | 06/10/13 |

15 YEARS

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Toby Farrimond | 06/23/08 |
|----------------|----------|

20 YEARS

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| Scott Lofton | 05/26/03 |
|--------------|----------|

NEW HIRES

FACILITY SERVICES

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Ron Stewart | 03/29 |
| Kari Althiser | 04/10 |
| Glenn Collins | 04/23 |
| Tim Drinkard | 04/24 |
| Jordan Dean | 05/05 |
| Kyurston Weathers | 05/10 |
| Michael Brooks | 05/15 |
| Twila Winkler | 05/22 |
| Daniel Crowe | 05/30 |
| Madeline Ramirez | 05/30 |
| Mike Kirkpatrick | 06/20 |

MAINTENANCE

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Eric McClarence | 04/10 |
| Michael Smithmier | 04/28 |
| Ryan Salsman | 05/22 |
| Jeremy Gonzales | 05/30 |

PLANNING/ENGINEERING

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Emma Aylesworth | 05/15 |
| Brianna Haley | 05/30 |

LANDSCAPING/GROUNDS

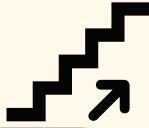
| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Dakota Hill | 04/03 |
| Bailey Miller | 04/03 |
| Steven Evans | 04/03 |
| Brandon Evans | 04/03 |
| Tyler Limon | 05/01 |
| Daniel Fehr | 05/01 |
| Levi Langley | 05/22 |
| Ian Chilson | 05/22 |

WELCOME



FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS

UTILITIES STEP COMPLETIONS



Gavin Campbell
Step 3
Operator

Zachary Moore
Step 2
Operator

Brandon Doty
Step 1
Operator

Zach Blanchard
Step 2
Operator

Ryan Middleton
Step 5
Instrumentation Technician

PROMOTIONS

Congrats to the following team members on recent promotions!

JEFF BLAIR
Utility Foreman

MIKE HAMMITT
Carpentry Supervisor

DAKOTA HILL
Irrigation Mechanic

ROXANNE VALDEZ
Gardener

TYLER LIMON
Turf Operator

KUDOS KORNER



Jason Gerhard

"Yesterday I had the privilege to meet Jason Gerhard. The sneeze guard glass at Baja Fresh shattered on Saturday night. Jason came over to Baja Fresh first thing Monday morning to look over the situation and to discuss our options. Not only did you replace the glass (not a permanent replacement) but he made sure it was completed before we opened for business. He went above and beyond by asking me if he could move the Plexi glass (our temporary fix) to a storage area. He saved the day and made our Monday morning not so stressful!

Alan Dalhed and Josh Hardy

"They were all amazing. Simple and plain. Friendly, fast, conscientious, clean, upbeat, cooperative, considerate, informative, thorough... Every day, they vacuumed the floor in the area(s) they were working, and asked if their equipment would be in the way (they would load it up if it was). Listening to them talk and work with each other, they were respectful, kind, helpful, supportive, encouraging...they were a JOY to work with! I didn't hear a pessimistic word the whole week. Please share with any of their supervisors! Every single person that came here in the last few weeks has been just wonderful. Thank you!!!"

QUARTER 2 AWARD WINNERS

**Q2 FACILITY SERVICES
AARON OGG**



AARON OGG IS A REFUSE/RECYCLE DRIVER FOR FACILITY SERVICES. HE HAS WORKED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA FOR 18 YEARS.

“Aaron approaches each day with a positive attitude and puts the needs of the shop first. He is always willing to jump in and assist other team members. We truly appreciate his flexibility and team first approach.”

**FACILITY SERVICES Q2
LINDA TRAMMELL**



LINDA TRAMMELL IS A CUSTODIAN FOR FACILITY SERVICES. SHE HAS WORKED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA FOR 1 YEAR.

“Linda is a very hard worker who cares about the people and her work within the building. We are lucky to have her taking cares of us!”
- College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences

**Q2 LANDSCAPE
TAMMIE MITCHELL**



TAMMIE MITCHELL IS A SENIOR GARDENER FOR LANDSCAPE SERVICES. SHE HAS WORKED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA FOR 27 YEARS.

“Tammie is reliable, knowledgeable, capable, resourceful, and hardworking. She has so much plant knowledge that we have added a plant education talk to our gardening weekly meeting.”

**UTILITIES Q2
MIKE MCMILLIN**



MIKE MCMILLIN IS A UTILITIES MAINTENANCE MECHANIC FOR UTILITIES. HE HAS WORKED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA FOR 2 YEARS.

“Mike filled in for the role of Maintenance Manager for the Utilities department during that period, Mike has maintained an attitude and work ethic that demonstrates his strong character.”

FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS

Q2



LEAD MARCUS PERRY

MARCUS PERRY IS
A SHIFT LEAD
OPERATOR IN
UTILITY SERVICES.
HE HAS WORKED
AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF
OKLAHOMA FOR 2
YEARS.

“*Marcus is a wealth of information and experience, whom everyone goes to for guidance. During the recent tornado, Marcus arrived early and was able to get power restored to the Power Plant.*”



Pictured: Sandra Anderson from Custodial Services recently finished 2nd in her age division at the Revel Rockies marathon in Colorado, qualifying her for the Boston Marathon. Sandra's pace was a 7:46 minute/mile. Sandra also ran in the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon, placing 3rd in her age division.

KUDOS KORNER



Jeff Hunt and Custodial Crew

"April 5th I got a call at 3 something in the am about a flood at George Lynn Cross. I just want to give props to Jeff and his crew, they were helpful to me and kept the situation clean and contained. It was a huge help to me and made getting called at 3 am bearable!"

Greg Brezinski

"I wanted to express my gratitude and appreciation for the support and assistance you provided to one of our residents, who's belonging were accidentally thrown away on Saturday. Your efforts undoubtedly alleviated a great deal of stress for her and I appreciate you going the extra mile to assist on one of the busiest days of the year."

IN MEMORIUM

David Lee 1962-2023



Facilities Management extends deepest sympathy to David's family and friends. David worked in FM for the past 18 years.

FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS

TEAMWORK CHAMPIONS



Pictured: (Left to Right) MaeEtta Laster, Elma Melton, and Caleb Hunter team clean a suite in Headington Hall.

CUSTODIAL HEADINGTON HALL AND ATHLETICS TEAMS

Each summer, all 380 bedrooms in Headington Hall get cleaned and prepped for the new residents arriving for the Fall semester. The Headington Hall and Athletics custodial teams work together to clean the 100,000 square feet of suites. The team consists of Sandra Gonzalez, Caleb Hunter, Mae Etta Laster, Elma Melton, and Rosemarie Starr, along with Lead Miguel Morales and occasional assistance from other team members. The team is supervised by Darren Bean.

At the start of the summer, Headington Hall sends a list of priority rooms, as athletes move-in early in the summer for camps and practices. Occasionally, the team will receive notification of a new priority room, requiring them to quickly shift plans.

Every day, the team gets to work cleaning the bedrooms, restrooms, living room, and kitchen in the same suite, splitting the responsibilities between each other to work efficiently as a team. Each suite is furnished with beds, desks, chairs, wardrobes, bureaus, sectional couches, tv stands, microwaves, refrigerators, and bar stools, all which have to be cleaned.

The custodial team also extracts carpet and refinishes the tile floor in the kitchens.

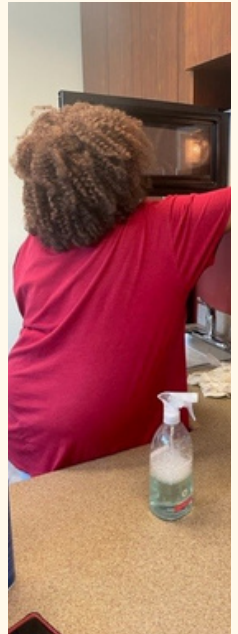
During the semester, the Headington Hall team is responsible for the routine cleaning of the public spaces, while the Athletics team predominately cleans the Oklahoma Memorial Stadium and Lloyd Noble Center.

“

I am so thankful for each member. Headington looks incredible, smells amazing, and so much of that credit goes directly to our extraordinary custodial team. Teamwork is imperative for the building's success and they consistently go above and beyond—not settling for anything but the BEST!

”

Kyle Butcher
Assistant Athletics Director,
Headington Hall Operations



FEATURED ARTICLES

FM Business Operations Recognized with AssetWorks Steve Deines Achievement Award

On May 11, 2023, the FM Business Operations team received recognition at AssetWorld for efforts with AiM ReADY and Power BI integration. AssetWorks Facilities CEO Randy Walsh stated "your team's innovative approach and dedication have helped you stand out as a leader in your industry," The Business Operations team consists of Kyle Isenhour, Terry Coltharp, and Sophia Hacker.

During the conference, a video was presented with interviews from Business Operations Manager Kyle Isenhour, Utilities Director Jeremy Debaets, Maintenance Director Glen Gordon, and Material Management Assistant Manager Geena Brownell. These team members also spoke at a Question and Answers session following the video.

ReADY Request was implemented in the summer of 2022 as FixIt.ou.edu, which allows service requests to be submitted via a customer portal with increased communication and transparency with requests.

PowerBI reports have been added to leadership AiM workdesks to display a variety of AiM information, such as work orders, inventory management, financial management, and human resources information. The reports allow quick vision to a variety of data and can be manipulated for additional information.



Pictured: A video presentation with interviews from OU FM team members was shown during the 2023 AssetWorld conference.



Pictured: (Left to Right) Ethan Wisener, Brandon Cox, Tammie Mitchell, Chester Warner, and Alex Dickson plant a tree in honor of Arbor Day.

Tree Planting on Arbor Day

On April 28, 2023, Landscape Services planted a new Chinese Pistache tree on the west side of the South Oval in honor of Arbor Day. The Chinese Pistache tree was selected via a campus-wide community poll and replaces a tree damaged from a previous winter storm. The original tree, along with two others, were planted in honor of the lives lost during the OKC bombing.

During the ceremony, several team members spoke about the planting, maintenance, and significance of the tree. Alex Dickson spoke about the size and depth of the hole when planting; Chester Warner about the Chinese Pistache tree type; Tammie Mitchell about proper planting and watering techniques; and Ethan Wisener about proper pruning and trimming.

The educational ceremony serves as a requirement towards the Tree Campus USA designation.

Landscape Services would like to thank the attendees from Facilities Management in support of the tree planting.



FEATURED ARTICLES

Utilities Performs Emergency Repair on North Oval

On May 30th, Utilities Distribution crew received a call of water bubbling up from the sidewalk on North Oval near the west hydrant. Initially believed as a small hole between the hydrant and the hydrant isolation valve, the Utilities crew made initial preparations for an excavation attempt the morning of June 1st using the vac-truck around the hydrant. However, water level did not decrease. After an hour of sidewalk and dirt removal, substantial leak on the water line header side of the isolation valve was discovered. This part of the water line is original installation line, about 50 years in age. Shortly after exposing what was believed to be the small leak, a large, pressurized, water stream was observed. The header needed to be isolated immediately.

The Teamwork Value was displayed with the help of customer service, building contacts for the northwest quadrant of the main campus were notified of impending water outage, while Utilities individuals isolated the header piping in the buildings. Custodial services hung restroom closure signs, and Roads and Hauling supported with removal of additional sidewalk, allowing room to expose the pipe for repairs.

In just over two hours since the leak was initially exposed, the Utility crew was able to install a large clamp onto the pipe, providing a short term repair and restoration of water to affected facilities. Currently, Utilities is planning permanent repair to replace piping and install an additional header isolation valve. The hydrant will be moved to allow more space for the handicap ramp.



Mike Zedeker, Mike Coffman, Justin Henry, and Joe Northcutt worked during the lunch hour to make the repair.

OU Hiring Steps



OUFM Welcome Wagon is the new orientation for team members.

Ever wondered the steps for hiring a new team member to OUFM?

Step 1 - After receiving a resignation or retirement notice, the respective leadership submits an e-mail request to refill the position. A request called a pre-authorization-1 is entered into PeopleSoft (OU's Human Resources software) by FM HR. OUHR Compensation team reviews the request and sends to OU Financial Services, and both departments reach out to OUFM with questions regarding the position. During this step, the position is reviewed for duties, wage, and funding. *Duration: 1 to 4 weeks*

Step 2 - Once approved by OUHR and OU Financial Services, the position can be listed on the job board. OUFM works with OUHR Talent team to post on Taleo (job board). A 'hiring manager' is designated from OUFM to review and notify applicants of next steps. The hiring manager is also responsible for conducting interviews and selecting the candidate. Once a final candidate is selected, the hiring manager submits a hire request in Taleo. Once that hire request is approved, the background check is initiated. *Duration: 1 to 5 days, excluding the interview process*

Step 3 - The new team member submits new hire paperwork to FM HR, which the information is then submitted into PeopleSoft as a pre-authorization-2. This submission has the team member information as well as the start date, time approver, and other relevant job information. OUHR Compensation and Records teams review and approve this request, which then notifies OUIT to create the 4x4. *Duration: 1 to 2 weeks*

Step 4 - Once the pre-authorization-2 is entered, the six digit ID is presented, which allows FM HR to create the AiM profile of the new team member. Once OUIT creates the 4x4, the new team member has access to AiM.

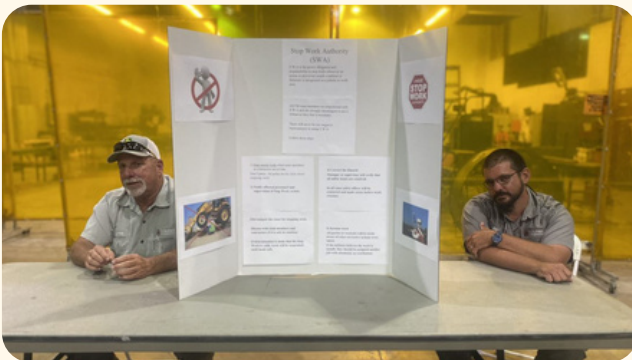
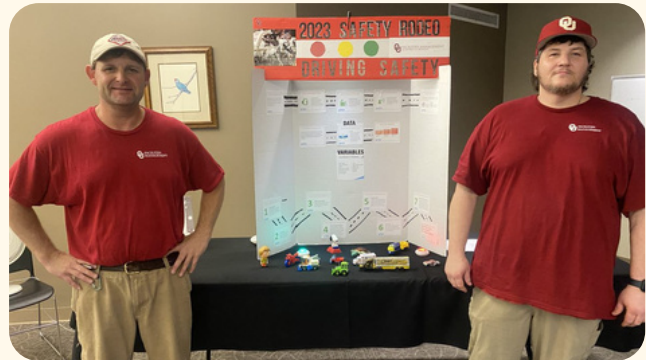
SAFETY UPDATE



SAFETY UPDATES

Safety Updates

The 2023 Annual Safety Breakfast and Barbeque was held on June 16. Both venues were well attended with everyone getting their fill of great food provided by Housing and Food. A "rodeo" was also held in which each department presented a safety topic to other team members. The presentations were great! As can be seen by the photos - we have some very creative teams! Your participation is greatly appreciated! Only through your engagement, participation, and support can we make the work we do on campus as safe as possible.



FEATURED TEAM MEMBERS/HR UPDATES



CONGRATULATIONS



Pictured: Justin Stephens recently received his Journeyman's Plumbing license.



Pictured: Israel Schumpert from Custodial Services was recognized Thursday, June 15 by NOAA for aiding a person in the parking lot in need of medical attention back in February. Israel was the first on the scene of the medical emergency. Israel received a plaque for excellence in safety.



HR Updates

Facilities Management has partnered with LiveWell OU and Magellan Health to offer quarterly in-person health and financial wellness workshops for our team members! Our very first workshop "Wellbeing for a healthier Body and Mind" was held in June in the 705 training room. If you'd like to attend the next session, make sure to coordinate with your supervisor and sign up through the QR code or sign-in sheets located in your shop, when the next one is scheduled. Topics on health will also count towards one hour of additional safety training outlined in the Safety Recognition Program.

More exciting news - OU Health Physicians Corporate Health and Wellness team will be on-site in the 705 training room on Wednesday, 8/2, for biometric screenings. These screenings test your cholesterol, blood glucose, blood pressure, and body composition and are available at no out-of-pocket expense to OUFM team members covered by the OU Cigna plan. Be on the look out for the link to make your appointment!

Did you know?

OU is proud to be the first university to win both the NCAA men's and women's gymnastics national championship titles in the same year (2016).

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