

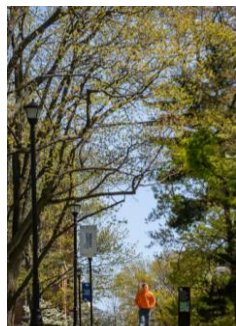


Facilities Management

Facilities Daily April 22– Issue #21

A newsletter highlighting and connecting the People and work of Facilities Management

Today is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Around the world and across our community, we are seeing **people** and **ecosystems** respond in incredible ways to this enormous global pause in business-as-usual. The Himalaya are visible from parts of India for the first time in decades. Families are spending more time together. Dolphins can be seen swimming in the canals of Venice. Communities, including the Big Blue Nation, are resiliently supporting local businesses and vulnerable populations. Changes in transportation and energy use are having positive impacts on air quality and commuter safety everywhere. We have a unique opportunity to acknowledge and embrace the connections between human health and prosperity, the health of the planet, and the gift that a better balance among these would represent for our children. **Today's newsletter highlights four ways Facilities Management supports the University's Sustainability Initiatives EVERYDAY.**



Speaking for the trees. UK has been recognized as a *Tree Campus USA* by the Arbor Day Foundation (ADF) since 2011. In 2017, UK formed a tree care team within **UK Grounds**. The team is responsible for all aspects of our campus forest and has created two new campus policies that set standards for tree protection and replacement during construction. In 2020, UK HealthCare became one of the first health care systems in the country to receive the ADF's new *Tree Campus HealthCare* status. Our trees enhance the wellbeing of our community and prevent 12.5 million gallons of stormwater runoff, save 550,000 kwh of electricity, and capture more than a million pounds of carbon dioxide annually.



Reduce, Reuse Recycle. Since the early 1990's UK's **Recycling Program** has been helping the campus community keep valuable items out of the landfill. In 2019, UK Recycling partnered with UK Dining and the College of Agriculture to launch the university's first large-scale food waste composting program. All food waste from Champions Kitchen and the Fresh Food Company is collected daily and taken to UK's Woodford County Farm to be turned into a valuable soil amendment. In the first six months of the program, more than 62 tons of food waste were collected, and 38 tons of compost were brought back to campus to enhance soil health.



Stream Restoration. An unnamed, spring-fed tributary of West Hickman Creek flows through the field below the Bell Soccer-Softball Complex along Alumni Drive. The stream had become entrenched in a ditch over the years and was causing issues for mowing teams. In 2016, **George Riddle and Jerry Hart** from **UK Grounds** partnered with UK faculty to lead an effort to fix the maintenance issue by returning the stream to a more natural condition. UK received a stormwater grant from LFUCG in 2018 to help fund the project. The stream channel has been restored and will serve as an important outdoor learning space for students in a wide variety of courses.



Reducing Emissions, Saving Money. In 2016, President Capilouto set an Emissions Reduction Target for the University of Kentucky. Energy use comprises more than 80% of the campus carbon footprint. **Utilities and Energy Management** has spearheaded our efforts on this front through system improvements and aggressive energy efficiency measures. Reducing energy use on a rapidly expanding campus is a challenge, but we are doing it! Overall emissions are down nearly 10% versus 2010 levels and our emissions per gross square foot of building space are down 30%!

Way (way) Back Wednesday (Earth Day Edition): *The Whitfield Stump*



The "Whitfield" stump is a 300-million-year-old 'cast' stump of a fern-like tree called a Lycopod. The stump was discovered when it dropped from the roof of the Clover Fork Coal Co., Kitts, KY and given to the University by George Whitfield, manager of the coal company, in 1961. In 2017, the stump was moved from the lawn of Whitehall to the Mining and Minerals Resources Building.

Pet Pictures:

Friday's photo collage will feature our furry friends. We suspect many of them are ready for you to go back to work. Include your owner and pet name. Send pictures to shane.tedder@uky.edu