

OUR PEOPLE. ————— OUR STORY.

*The Covid-19 pandemic has had a tremendous impact on our campus and community. The people of UK Facilities Management remain the “boots on the ground” for UK, providing the essential services needed to keep our campus safe, secure, and positioned to respond to the evolving crisis. The strength each of you demonstrate daily is inspiring and represents such courage and compassion. We are in this together and we will get through it together. **Thank you for everything you do.** – Mary Vosevich, Vice President for Facilities Management*



The **Medical Center Facilities** team, in cooperation with **FM’s Planning, Design, and Construction** group, are coordinating repairs to the loading dock at the Dorothy Enslow Combs Cancer Research Building. **Scott Hogue** is the project manager for FM PDC. They are replacing a large section of concrete at the dock that was in poor condition. The Combs Building provides over 24,500 square feet of state of the art laboratory, office and conference space and houses primary research laboratories dedicated to cancer research. The building is named for the late Dorothy Combs whose family, owners of Spendthrift Farm, made a generous contribution in her name during fundraising for the construction of the facility. This project should be complete next week.

Protecting our sanitary sewer system by properly disposing of gloves, masks, and other PPE is very important. Around the country these items are causing clogs in sewer systems and headaches for facility and utility managers. Compounding the problem, many people have turned to convenient cleaning supplies like paper towels and disinfecting wipes during the pandemic. These items are also non-flushable but often end up in the sewer system. UK’s sanitary sewer systems are maintained by **FM’s Utilities and Energy Management** group. Please help UEM keep things flowing smoothly on campus by properly disposing of non-flushable items.



June 22-26 is *Animal Rights Awareness Week*. To celebrate, we will feature pictures and stories about campus wildlife each day this week. Today’s photo is a classic: the Eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*) emerging from an outdoor trash receptacle. These acrobatic arboreal mammals are abundant on campus and found throughout the state. They support two of Facilities Management’s strategic goals by helping to reduce the food waste our campus sends to the landfill and by planting new trees when they forget to recover all the acorns they bury. They are also a favorite meal for furry Wildcats (bobcats). Yikes!

Self-care, maintaining and improving our mental and physical health, should always be a priority but it is especially important in these trying times. UK Human Resources, through their **Work-Life Connections Program**, provides a wide array of resources available to all UK Employees. We encourage you to take time this week to do two things. First, learn about the warning signs that commonly indicate that stress and circumstances are negatively impacting your mental health. Second, familiarize yourself with the resources that UK provides to help you regain balance and focus. More info:

<https://www.uky.edu/hr/work-life/counseling/worklife-connections-counseling>



PHOTO FRIDAY: Show off your garden!

June is also Fresh Fruits and Vegetable month, so let’s show off our home gardens. Much like the Victory Garden movement during WWII, home gardening has been an important coping hobby for many of us during these unprecedented and challenging times. Submit photos of your home garden to shane.tedder@uky.edu by the end of the day on Thursday for our Photo Friday Collage.