

~**UT PROSIM**~ The Physical Plant Team is proud to support the University Mission with nearly 1,000 years of combined service! We even refocused our mission statement.

Physical Plant Mission Statement

Serving students, faculty and staff by creating and sustaining a friendly, safe, healthy learning and living environment.

We contribute to our success by:

- * Our team's commitment to customer service*
- * The strength, knowledge and experience of our dedicated staff.*
- * Through honor, integrity, hard work and respect for all that we serve*

Maintenance Operations

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Museum of the White Mountains - Renovations

A few years ago the Methodist Church located at 34 Highland Street relocated to their new home on Fairgrounds Road. After the move, Plymouth State University purchased the old church building. This addition to the Campus would become the Museum of the White Mountains. This past year Physical Plant has had a very active role in the renovations to this 60 year old brick building. The first phase of renovations was completed just prior to the New Year and the Museum was able to celebrate their Grand Opening in February.

This first phase of the renovation focused on the re-use and remodeling of the old structure.

- ~The former sanctuary created a large central art gallery and exhibition space
- ~The lower level now provides for collection storage
- ~The main entrance contains a reception area and new offices
- ~The main floor now has a delivery & receiving area and loading dock
- ~Upgrades to the building systems, interior layout and exterior building envelope
- ~New roof
- ~Addition of an elevator
- ~Window modifications
- ~Updated heating system
- ~New climate control, air conditioning and energy management systems
- ~Additional insulation
- ~Addition of fire alarms and fire suppression systems
- ~Addition of security systems
- ~New interior floor plan
- ~New floor and wall finishes
- ~New window treatments
- ~Addition of Campus tele-data systems (phone, data, wireless, etc.)
- ~State of the art lighting system
- ~New restrooms
- ~Exterior site improvements
- ~New driveway and parking
- ~Building drainage and storm-water management
- ~Underground power, water and sewer upgrades
- ~New lawn and plantings
- ~Signage
- ~Meets ADA access requirements



From the beginning, it was determined that this renovation would meet LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver standards. LEED standards were developed by the US Green Building Council. The standards are "intended to provide building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions".

Sometime in the future a second phase will add approximately 4000 square feet for additional academic and administrative space. It will upgrade the collection area and further upgrade the HVAC systems.

Energy Tech Services & Operations

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Plymouth State University has been collaborating with the Town of Plymouth and New Hampshire Electric (NHEC) on converting the high pressure sodium (HPS) (yellow light lumens) exterior lighting fixtures to LED (white light lumens) exterior lighting fixtures. All three parties involved recognize the potential savings not only from electricity but from a maintenance standpoint. The Town of Plymouth, working NHEC, is converting all of their HPS street lighting to LED street lighting in three phases. The first phase of the Town project will be to change all of the HPS street lights on Avery St., Crawford St., Cummings St., Garland St., Highland St. (from Main St. to Avery St.), Keeble St., Langdon St., South Main St. (from the commons to Warren St.), Pleasant St., Russell St., Warren St., Webster St., Wentworth St. and Winter St.

Plymouth State University is currently working on an exterior lighting study to convert all of the HPS exterior lights to LED exterior lights on campus. There are four LED prototypes on campus.

Do you know where the four LED prototypes are located? Please e-mail dperrin@plymouth.edu with your answers.

Building Services Operations

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When you think of cleaning you probably don't think of the training and continuing education needed to keep our students, faculty, and staff safe. We do, and you will be hearing more about some changes to the old system in the coming months. This new "Globally Harmonized System" (GHS) will start to replace the current standard "MSDS" (right to know) system already in place.

A brief summary of some of the changes to the new "GHS" follows.

Overview of GHS:

Recently the United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), was developed. This system was developed to insure the proper management of chemicals, and to insure labeling and documentation are consistent not only from product to product, but globally as well. The idea is to insure consumers and workers across the world have access to the same documentation and universal symbols for hazards.

What is the GHS?

The GHS is an acronym for The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and labeling of Chemicals. The GHS is a system for standardizing and harmonizing the classification and labeling of chemicals. It is a logical and comprehensive approach to:

Defining health, physical and environmental hazards of chemicals

Creating classification processes that use available data on chemicals for comparison with the defined hazard criteria

Communicating hazard information, as well as protective measures, on labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS).

Are you still with us? Good! The Building Services Department has already begun to work with our partners and had our first training in the new system on March 21st. We are proud to say that once again we are ahead of the curve on training, and our transition to "Green" cleaning has helped position us for a much easier transition to the new system. Compliance, training, and safety are always at the forefront of what we do, and now you know too.



Environmental Health & Safety Operations

Coming soon....

If you have any environmental, health or safety concerns please contact our main office at 535-2254.

Horticulture Spring Happenings 2013



The Horticulture branch of the Grounds Operations Team is getting geared up for spring! The Greenhouse is warm and home to the first round of annuals & perennials. Late fall early winter of 2012, Sherri Covell coordinated to have a "Hot Dawg" Heating system installed in the greenhouse, allowing extra grow time for window box annuals & new perennials. That's right, perennials! We are looking forward to incorporating yet more perennials into the beautiful PSU campus landscape. What to expect right away on campus? Keep a look out at the Robert Frost statue, side entry of the Russell House, the front entry of Center Lodge and Human Resources, and a small bed in front of The Physical Plant building as all areas have fall planted perennials just waiting to pop their heads up!

The [Plants in Bloom blog](#) has also been updated.

Check it out at the Physical Plant home page on the PSU website.

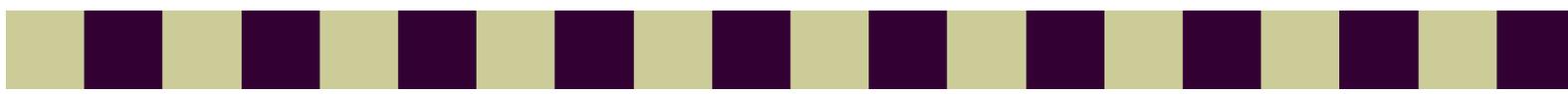


Fun ideas with fruit to try this summer!

Let your imagination run wild and create adorable and fun ways to eat fruit! Try using vegetables too! Just takes a little creativity and a few cookie cutters!

Have fun and enjoy your summer!

See you in the Fall!



WHEN A WET VAC COUNTS MORE THAN A PH.D.

By PAUL IRGANG

***This opinion essay from today's CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION was written by Paul Irgang, a building-maintenance technician at the University of Miami. ***

At colleges and universities throughout the United States, physical-plant employees are often unappreciated and undervalued, the campus equivalent of Ralph Ellison's "invisible man."

Those of us who work in academe inhabit an unofficial, yet undeniable, caste system. Tenured Ph.D.'s constitute the Brahmin sect, followed by un-tenured faculty and staff members and research associates, librarians, secretaries, food-service personnel, and, finally, the untouchables: physical-plant employees.

If you can use a hammer and have a clean record -- that is, no criminal convictions (arrests are OK, but no convictions) - you can get a job here at the University of Miami's department of facilities management (physical plant), where I have been employed as a "building-maintenance worker II" for the past nine years. (Note: If you are unable to use a hammer, you may still be eligible to become an administrator.)

Here at U.M., my colleagues and I are most appreciated whenever a hurricane with sustained winds of more than 150 m.p.h. approaches campus. It is usually during this "emergency-preparation phase" that our dean provides us with a free catered lunch and unlimited kudos. When the impending storm is within 100 miles of Biscayne Bay, and the institution is officially closed, we are suddenly given a new moniker -- "essential personnel." During these crisis situations the physical-plant team hunkers down, trying to save not only the buildings, but years' and millions of dollars' worth of experiments in progress. Tissue samples must remain chilled by emergency generators. Irreplaceable 10,000-year-old ice-core samples must not be allowed to thaw. Rare specimens of coral must be protected. Computers must be wrapped in plastic, and kept dry and out of harm's way.

When the wind speed picks up, proficiency with a power saw becomes a real asset. We board up windows. We man the pumps. We secure all objects that have the potential to become destructive or deadly missiles during the maelstrom.

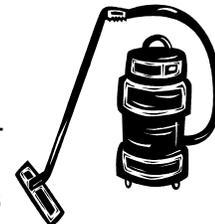
Suddenly, the storm, influenced by a high-pressure system just offshore, takes a sharp turn to the north. The university has dodged the bullet once again; the danger has passed.

Within minutes the phone rings at the physical-plant department. It's one of our associate deans: "Listen, I've been trying to get a light bulb replaced for almost a week. How many of you guys does it take to screw in one of those things?"

It is my sincere hope that all those involved in higher education begin to understand that the successful operation of a university campus demands a team effort and that there are times when a man with a wet vac is as valuable as any Ph.D. in theoretical physics.

Without the assistance of physical-plant employees, for how long would the University of Notre Dame's golden dome remain golden? How long before Stanford's or Cornell's manicured lawns begin to resemble the brush and bramble of some suburban bank in foreclosure? How long before all campuses decline and decay into windblown shells, 20th-century Parthenons that only hint at the glory that once was?

So, whether you're a professor or a student, an administrator or a secretary, please treat all physical-plant employees with the dignity and respect they deserve.



Did you know? The Physical Plant Maintains...

68 Buildings— Academic & Residential

General Maintenance, Flooring, Painting, Plumbing, Heating, Electrical, Lighting, Lock and Door Repair, and New Construction.

More than 7.9 million Sq. Ft. of Grounds

Snow Removal, Mowing, Shrub, Tree and Plant care, Athletic Fields, Walkways, Event Set-ups, Moving Furniture, and more.

Questions or Comments

email us at: abmagdich@plymouth.edu or call 603-535-2254

Want to know more? Visit our website

<http://www.plymouth.edu/fsb/>

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