

Customer Update

Virginia Tech Facilities

A bulletin for Facilities' customers

Construction * Maintenance * Utilities * Renovations

Capital Design and Construction (CDCD)



Agriculture/Natural Resources Laboratory Building

- ◆ A Certificate of Use and Occupancy was received for the Agriculture/Natural Resources Laboratory Building in early March 2006. This 5-story, 84,000 GSF building will include critical research laboratories and offices for both the College of Agriculture and the College of Natural Resources.
- ◆ The Graduate Life Center bids opened on March 1, 2006. The new facility will house the Graduate School on two levels of the original Alumni Hall. In the Donaldson Brown portion of the building, limited renovating will occur in select areas of the first floor and may include upgrades to student rooms on the upper levels, if funding permits. Construction will begin in the Alumni Hall in April 2006 and in Donaldson Brown after May 17. Construction is expected to be completed in time for the return of students in the fall of 2006.
- ◆ Favorable bids were received on the foundations for the Boiler Pollution Control project. The remainder of the work, which includes the pollution reduction equipment, is anticipated to be substantially complete by January 2007.

Physical Plant Operations (PPO)

- ◆ PPO will be replacing roofs on Slusher Hall, Engel Hall, and a portion of Pritchard Hall over the upcoming summer. Additionally, planning is underway to replace the roof on Veterinary Medicine Phase I during the summer of 2007.
- ◆ The PPO Grounds Division is in the process of conducting a grounds condition survey. Please feel free to input your opinions. Survey cards are available at the Campus Visitor's Center or may be obtained by calling Customer Service at 1-4300. In addition, Customer Service will be sending out comment cards on a random basis to solicit customer feedback on work order response.

Utilities

Virginia Tech Electric Service (VTES)

- ◆ The university's existing contract with Appalachian Power Company for the purchase of wholesale electricity will expire June 30, 2007. Therefore, VTES has started the process to select a new wholesale power supplier. The wholesale power supply market is de-regulated, unlike the retail electric marketplace. This creates competition in the wholesale markets and eventually lower rates in high cost areas. Southwestern Virginia presently experiences the lowest electric rates in the country. The areas with low rates will most likely experience increases and the areas with high rates will, hopefully, experience decreases in rates. VTES hopes to be able to select the wholesale electric supply company that not only has the best rates but is financially sound and will be able to supply the wholesale electrical needs of VTES for the term of the contract.

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Mechanical Utilities

- ◆ Mechanical Utilities completed the move from Sterrett Facilities Complex to the new VTES facility. The welding shop operations formerly in Bay 5 of Sterrett Center are now in the VTES facility.



New Welding Shop Operations at VTES

- ◆ Work continues on the expansion of the central chiller plant. Substantial completion is scheduled for early summer 2006.
- ◆ Substantial progress has been made on transitioning the campus water meters to radio-read meters. Nearly half of the meters have been replaced.
- ◆ The cooling tower at Wallace Hall has been replaced as a Maintenance Reserve project.

Central Steam Plant

- ◆ The Central Steam Plant is pleased to have Gary Raines as the new fiscal assistant. Gary moved to the office position from the maintenance crew.



Cooling Tower at Wallace Hall

Campus Renovation Services (CRS)

- ◆ Fralin Biotechnology Center on West Campus Drive is receiving an upgrade to their third floor labs. The new addition is a Bio-Safety Level (BSL) 3 laboratory due for completion on July 1, 2006. A BSL-3 lab is suitable for work with infectious agents which may cause serious or potentially lethal diseases as a result of exposure by inhalation. This new lab is in response to the need to facilitate BSL-3 research requirements of several researchers who will be conducting research in order to complete existing grant requirements. This new lab will also serve to assist others who are seeking similar grants now and in the future.