USF is closely monitoring the coronavirus outbreak.

For updates from USF please visit usf.edu/coronavirus

For the most recently updated and accurate information visit cdc.gov/coronavirus

April 2020

Earth Day was on the 22nd of April and Arbor Day was on the 24th. While festivities this year were limited due to the pandemic, the USF Campus Tree Advisory Committee still found a way to celebrate while following CDC guidelines. Twenty new trees of various species were planted on-campus. The act was commemorated virtually across USF’s social media accounts. Planting new trees each year promotes a healthier environment by increasing biodiversity, providing shade to pedestrians, and adding color to campus.

There were no community gatherings or group cleanups this year, but there are still many activities that you can do while social distancing that are good for both your health and the Earth. Some things you can do include picking up litter in your neighborhood, planting something, and going to a local park or trail for a walk, run, or bike ride.

If you are unable to go outside, you can also celebrate inside your home. You can create nature-related art or repurpose an old item of clothing. Finally, if you want to celebrate the planet at home, you can spend time educating yourself on ways to protect the environment. If you would like to learn more, visit earthday.org or arborday.org for news, stories, and educational videos.

Celebrating the Planet at Home

Being around trees has been proven to have many benefits, including reduced stress, lowered blood pressure, and improved mood; all of which lead to better overall physical health. With many people experiencing increased levels of concern about their health, now is a great time to celebrate our planet.

Two of twenty trees that were planted by the Campus Tree Advisory Committee during the month of April.

Members of the Campus Tree Advisory Committee planting trees to celebrate Arbor Day.

Continue to check the links above to find answers to frequently asked questions and up-to-date information on the COVID-19 outbreak.

Reminders

- Don’t forget to nominate a deserving co-worker for an Excellence Award!
- May 25 is Memorial Day

On the Job: Marquis Wallace-Oliphant, helps keep transportation options available to those still on-campus.

Office of Administrative Services
The mission of the USF Department of Emergency Management (EM) is to “prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from disasters and emergencies that affect the USF System community to foster a safe and secure living, learning, and working environment”. Due to the circumstances surrounding COVID-19, and for the healthy and safety of their team, EM has had to find ways to perform their duties virtually.

EM is responsible for coordination of the USF Emergency Operations Center (EOC), which they are now operating remotely. The EOC team consists of representatives from departments throughout each USF campus, and helps to facilitate emergency preparedness, response, and recovery to incidents. This includes academic continuity and business continuity. EM also assists in developing Continuity of Operations plans with departments to ensure that they are able to continue their essential functions during a disruption to normal business, like the pandemic has presented.

Along with operating the EOC virtually, EM has also assisted in taking steps, such as implementing enhanced cleaning procedures and social distancing measures, to ensure that employees who must remain on campus are staying safe.

EM has been adapting to this pandemic by learning how to respond quickly and efficiently during a crisis via online communication. Thank you to all of the employees from EM who are working hard to ensure the best outcome for the USF community, despite all the challenges that have risen recently.

Administrative Services always strives to achieve the goal of being the best workplace in the Tampa Bay area. Four pillars, which are teams of forward-thinking employees, were established in 2015 to help achieve this goal.

Each Pillar has a different function, and each function helps to better the work experience of OAS employees. The Communication Pillar is responsible for ensuring that effective communication exists at all levels of OAS by developing and implementing ways to improve communication. The Technology and Equipment Pillar makes sure the right technology and equipment is available to employees so they can perform their jobs successfully. The Professional Development and Training Pillar promotes professional development by suggesting opportunities for training that will help employees realize and achieve their advancement goals. Finally, the Recognition and Awards Pillar drives the Excellence Awards program forward, develops and implements morale improvement programs, and ensures recognition needs are being met at all levels.

Each Pillar is made up of a team of four Pillar Champions, who are volunteers from each division of OAS (two from FM, one from the Business Center, and one from Parking and Transportation Services) that work to drive the mission of each pillar forward.

There are currently two open positions for FM, one on the Communication Pillar and the Professional Development and Training Pillar. There is one open position for PATS, on the Technology and Equipment Pillar. If you are interested in filling one of these positions please email Beth Beall at bbeal@usf.edu.