

## Landscape Services receives a national sustainability innovation award



*Landscape Services recently received a national sustainability award for its use of self-watering planters such as the one pictured above. The plants are not only sustainable, they also add color to campus where plants beds are not an option. Photos courtesy of Justin Sutton.*

Facilities Management Landscape Services recently received the 2020 APPA Sustainability Innovation Award by implementing the installation of more than 130 self-watering planter pots across campus and converting more than 30 concrete pots to new more efficient self-watering planters.

“The Sustainability Innovation Award is designed to recognize and promote unique and innovative sustainable practices in the educational facilities and campus environments, ultimately embedding them within the educational institution as exemplified by Auburn’s landscaping efforts,” said Anthony Guerrero, vice president of Member and Community Engagement for APPA.

Facilities Management’s Landscape Services Director Justin Sutton noted that the idea came about after the department noticed it was spending a large amount of time watering planter pots across campus.

“In an effort to be more sustainable, we searched to find ways to decrease the time spent on this task, while continuing to add color and improve the aesthetics of campus in areas where landscaping was lacking or just not implementable due to the amount of hardscape in specific areas.”

The department soon realized that self-watering planters were substantially less labor intensive, which would allow it to dramatically expand use of the planters.

According to Sutton, the benefits soon stretched well beyond what was just visibly appealing.

“We benefited substantially from labor and fuel savings, as well as water conservation and reduced fuel emissions. We believe the benefits directly impacted and improved the Auburn experience by adding splashes of color in more locations across campus while also supporting our go green initiative,”

Sutton said. “The additional plant material also supports Auburn’s Bee Campus USA measures by adding more food sources for pollinators.”

Auburn is committed to integrating sustainability into all aspects of the university, including: operations, instruction, research and outreach activities. Auburn considers sustainability a core value and strives for excellence through continuous assessment and improvement.

***See page four to read more about Landscape Services sustainability efforts.***

# Employee Communications *from the FM Office of Employee Engagement*

## General Announcements

**Benefits Reminder** – Auburn continues to offer COVID-related leave for employees who have been impacted by the coronavirus, either personally, through a family member or through resulting child care issues. The existing guidelines have been approved through Aug. 8, 2020. For more information, visit Auburn University Human Resources website or contact Christy at clk0022@auburn.edu or 334-734-9120.

**Work Management** now reports directly to Bobby Horn, Manager, Materials Management.

## Congratulations

**Congratulations to Oscar Preston** – promoted to Supervisor, Waste Reduction/Recycling - July 19.

**Congratulations to Michael Cobb** – recipient of Spirit of Excellence Employee of the Year Award for Service/Maintenance.

**Congratulations to William Dempster** – recipient of Spirit of Excellence for Service/Maintenance April 2020.

**Congratulations to Kristy Fulmar**, Assistant Director, Campus Services, has completed all coursework to finish her MBA from LSU – August 2020.

**Congratulations to Marcus Moore and Eric Kennedy** – they celebrated their three year anniversary with Facilities Management – July 2020.

**Congratulations to Dalton Sconyers** – promoted to Tree Care Supervisor – July 20

**Congratulations to Austin Lovett** – promoted to Irrigation Tech – July 20

**Congratulations to Charles Gilbert** - Charles will be joining Utilities Services full time to support our Utility mapping and GPS initiatives. Charles has been with us for several years and is transitioning from a TES role.

**Congratulations to Trip Roberts**, Construction Management student worker, graduated August 8 with a Masters in Building Construction. He has accepted a job with Stone Building Company in Birmingham. We wish him the best!

**Congratulations to Maintenance** for passing 416 days (as of August 14) without a personal injury. Great job!

**Congratulations to the following employees** for receiving Core Value Coins:

- **Jonathan McDonald** – *Teamwork*
- **Alan Lindsey** – *Teamwork*
- **Ken Bledsoe** – *Teamwork*
- **Lee Estes** – *Teamwork*
- **Charles Maddox** – *Teamwork*
- **Doug Kennedy** – *Teamwork*
- **Jim Penny** – *Teamwork*
- **Frank Bentley** - *Teamwork*

**Congratulations to the following employees** who received a cash award for June 2020 :

Alex Hedgepath	Denise Kalan
Alvin Echols	Dennis Hughes
Andra Thomas	Derek Hall
Andrew Adams	Derrick Bullard
Angelo Hathcock	Donald Arwood
Annie Griffin	Donna Giles
Anthony Coleman	Dora Moore
Anthony Driver	Dylan Ostrander
Anthony Stehman	Earnest Teel
Anthony Walker	Edward Struzick
Arlin Spraggins	Edwin Wood
Ashley Sharpe	Emily Johnson
Athen Scarioni	Emory Dillard
Audrey Bryan	Forrest Hall
Austin Lovett	George Kirkpatrick
Benjamin Tarvin	Glenn Rodgers
Betty Terry	Grant Kirby
Brett Stephens	Haiden Boyles
Brian Philpott	James Burdette
Brittany foster	James Cosper
Brittany Wheatley	James Coleman
Bryan Raschilla	James Kerr
Burke Wagoner	James Lyons
Carolyn Brown	James Ray
Carson McClendon	James Stillwell
Charles Gilbert	James Watts
Charles Greenlee	James Welch
Chris Channell	Jarvis Williams
Chris Potts	Jason Amling
Christina Greer	Jason Foshee
Christopher Pruitt	Jaye Dennis
Christy Kimbrough	Jeffery Kemp
Corrina Ackers	Jeffrey Gullledge
Cort Fisher	Jerome Russell
Cynthia Baccus	Jerontavious
Dalton Sconyers	Flournoy
Daniel Brand	Jerry Ledbetter
Daniel Keeble	Jim Penny
Danny Barreto	Joe Moody
Danny Bentley	Joey Vickers
David Floyd	John Askew
David Howell	John Vollar
David Morgan	Johnny Bentley
David Witt	Jonathan Morgan
DeAndre Gilmore	Jonathan Sandlin

Jose Montanez  
Martinez  
Julius Johnston  
Karen Spencer  
Karen Whitehead  
Keith Cooper  
Keith Nall  
Ken Ervin  
Kenneth Bledsoe  
Kenneth Byrd  
Kenneth Pitts  
Kevin Jones  
Lamar Finley  
Lance Freeman  
Larry Burt  
Malcom Daily  
Margret Duvall  
Margrit Tate  
Marietta Flakes  
Mark Carroll  
Mark Hanks  
Mason Morgan  
Matt Geer  
Matthew Skinner  
Michael Hood  
Michael Lyons  
Michaelangelo Flynn  
Michial McCormick  
Nathaniel Evans  
Neil Lawson  
Nicholas Nowlin  
Nina Hollingsworth  
Noelle Wills Hattier  
Norah Macon  
Nylah Cohen  
Oscar Preston  
Patricia Cole  
Paul Barringer  
Paul Dickinson  
Phillip Gohman  
Phillip Black

Phillip Johnson  
Preston Arwood  
Princess Rowe  
Randy Long  
Ray Willett  
Reed McPherson  
Reta Jackson  
Richard Braley  
Richard Eller  
Robert Horn  
Robert Joyce  
Robert Overstreet  
Robert Parham  
Rovel Burney  
Scott Crosby  
Sharn Washington  
Somchai Segrest  
Sonora Russell  
Stephen Stroud  
Steven Johnston  
Steven Neighbors  
Susie Brown  
Teresina Muhammad  
Thomas Cobb  
Thomas Reese  
Timothy Bunn  
Timothy Vickers  
Tonia Rosser  
Tony Wolfe  
Travis Herrmann  
Tripp Thrash  
Tyler Brown  
Vanessa Jerido  
Vincent Cicchino  
Vincent Ford  
Wayne Mullins  
Wesley Burt  
Wesley Miller  
William Dempster  
William Ivey  
Willie Trimble  
Windy Halsey

## New Employees/Welcome

**Rico Harvey** | Custodial Manager, Custodial Services | *July 20*

**Barbara Lengsfeld** | Coord II, Waste Reduction/Recycling | *August 16*

**Patricia Cole** | Admin Support Asst II, Work Management | *July 19*

**Brittany Wheatley** | Custodian II, Custodial Services | *August 31*

**LaKisha McCarter** | Custodian II, Custodial Services | *August 31*

**Greyson Jones** | Custodian II, Custodial Services | *August 31*

**Heath Marshall** | Tech II, Utilities, Utility Services | *August 17*

**Billy Brock** | Spec III, Energy Management | *August 17*



**Jessica Johnson** | HR Assistant,  
Facilities HR | *August 31*

**Stephen Bryant** | Tech II, Construction  
– IHC | *August 3*

**Sarah Rollins** | Spec, Communications  
& Marketing | *August 3*

**Zachary Vollar** | Groundskeeper I,  
Landscape Services | *August 2*

**Robert Zugazaga** | Groundskeeper I,  
Landscape Services | *August 16*

### Retirements/Resignations

**Linda Payne** | Custodial Services |  
*retired effective June 1*

**Mary Townsend** | Custodial Services |  
*retired effective August 1*

**Evelyn Philpot** | Custodial Services |  
*retired effective August 1*

**Phillip Abston** | Service Support |  
*resigned effective July 31*

**Bobby Beauchamp** | Materials  
Management | *resigned effective  
August 31*

**Carol Cadenhead** | Utility Services |  
*retired September 1 – 22 years of service*

**Bryan Raschilla** | Landscape Services |  
*retired September 1*

**Jason Amling** | Landscape Services |  
*retired September 1*

### Facilities Training

#### Self-Directed Learning Recommendations:

1. Cert Prep: Project Management Professional (PMP) – (in AU LinkedIn) – excellent preparatory training for the PMP Certification; includes handouts, Study Guides, & practice Exams. Excellent Instructor! (Over 6 hours of training)
2. LinkedIn (Free Online Courses)
  - Login to AU Access
  - Click on “Employees”
  - Click on “LinkedIn Learning”
  - Login and/or Register

#### Contact for training sessions:

**Kathleen Jones** | [ktj0004@auburn.edu](mailto:ktj0004@auburn.edu)  
| (334) 844-9411 | Building 1, Room  
1173D

The training calendar can be found at  
<https://aub.ie/trainingcalendar>.

### Employment Opportunities

#### Landscape Services

- Landscape Supervisor – 2 positions
- Arbor Specialist I/II
- Groundskeeper I/II – 2 positions
- Pesticide Applicator

### Maintenance

- Construction Tech, IHC
- Tech, Infrastructure, Heavy Construction
- Roofer, Heavy Construction
- Painter, Zone 3
- Plumber, Zone 4

### Campus Services

- Manager, Mail Services
- TES Mail Services Tech
- Tech I, Mail Services
- Tech I/II, Service Support
- Custodian II
- Inventory Control Clerk I/II

For more information about, or to apply for, one of the jobs listed above, visit the Auburn University online employment site at [auemployment.com](http://auemployment.com).

These announcements are gathered by the Facilities Management Office of Employee Engagement. Submit announcements via email to Cynthia Baccus at [geercyn@auburn.edu](mailto:geercyn@auburn.edu).

## Arthur Taylor retires after 14 years as Facilities painter



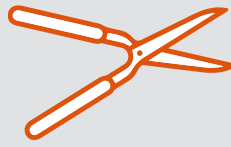
Arthur Taylor retired on Aug. 1, 2020 after working almost 14 years as a painter for Facilities Management. During his time at Facilities, he also served as a member of the Staff Council (an A&P Assembly committee). According to his coworkers, “He had a wonderful career and will always be a beloved member of the Auburn Family.” Photos courtesy of Davon Fox.

# Landscape Services' additional sustainable initiatives

*Landscaping is also using sustainable methods to reduce labor and material costs, water usage and emissions.*



Reduce emissions, fuels and noise by using battery operated/electric equipment and vehicles.



Reduce dependency on gas by using manual loppers to prune plants and trees.



Reduce water usage by utilizing Smart Irrigation controllers to provide water-saving benefits including moisture sensors, water flow sensing and weather based scheduling.



Reduce water usage by planting drought tolerant/xeriscape plants that do not require a lot of maintenance.



Reduce pine straw applications by re-coloring existing pine straw with a nontoxic water-based dye to give it a "like new" look.



Recycle grass clippings, flowers, leaves, etc. into composted soil which is then used in new landscape planting projects.



Re-use flower containers and trays in the greenhouse. Plastic containers Landscaping doesn't use are returned to growers for re-use.



75% of fertilizer usage is eco-friendly ones that include bio-solids. Much of the fertilizers used across campus on the turf and landscape contain 35% bio-solids.



Focus on using more native plants and trees to pursue eradication of invasive plant species on campus.

## Facilities HR names Cynthia Baccus as its first employee engagement coordinator



Cynthia Baccus

If you attended one of Facilities' employee engagement events such as the Holiday Open House, Easter Egg Hunt, tailgating afternoon and more, you have likely met Cynthia Baccus.

Cynthia has worked in Facilities' HR for over 25 years. During that time, she has helped coordinate and ensure the success of several engagement programs.

Her work experience and past success led to a recent promotion as the first employee engagement coordinator.

"With the recent retirement of our employee engagement director, we discovered the importance of having an employee engagement focused team," said Facilities Senior Human

Resources Manager, Loren Winn. "We decided to work through the university compensation department to create an employee engagement manager and an employee engagement coordinator position that would focus on employee satisfaction, building employee trust, creating programs that would motivate and help to build employee relationships, as well as help to foster a sense of pride in their jobs at Auburn University Facilities Management.

After a competitive search, Cynthia Baccus was the selected candidate for the employee engagement coordinator. Cynthia brings 25 years of experience in human resource and employee engagement activities.

