

April 24, 2020

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

FM DAILY
COMMUNICATION

Issue 16

Good morning everyone,

Today, April 24, is National Arbor Day. I'd like to take a moment to call out the value of trees in our environment. Considering that we manage an urban forest of just under 10,000 trees, it's important to remember why trees have immense value and relevancy to our wellbeing. You may know that urban forests help to protect and clean our water and air. They provide energy savings through lowering local air temperatures. They offer shelter and food sources for wildlife. But did you know that research has come to show that exposure to trees also provides numerous health gains? Among many of the known benefits, forests help to boost the immune system, lower blood pressure, reduce stress, improve mood, and increase focus and energy levels. This includes urban forests like the green spaces and parks that exist on campus and around our cities. In fact, earlier this week, President McConnell revealed in her email that one of the things she loved to do was to walk "in the beautiful green spaces around Fort Collins, including campus."

Facilities Management focuses on efforts to be good stewards of trees through our membership with Tree Campus USA, and in the last year we attained international arboretum status. (For more information: <https://www.fm.colostate.edu/arboretum>.) In 1881 our university planted 3,000 trees on campus—a choice that still positively impacts our community today. Continuing with this legacy of progressive forethought, throughout the month of April, Grounds employees are planting 150 trees in honor of the sesquicentennial and in support of our CSU Campus Arboretum. Even with obstacles like last week's heavy snow storm, they are working through the process of planting a variety of trees on main campus. Thanks to the generosity of Bailey Nurseries, J. Frank Schmidt, Loma Vista, and Oregon Pride, we received a diverse pallet of donated trees, including bare root stock and container stock.

On behalf of CSU, Facilities Management is committed to the same stewardship exhibited over the last 150 years. Trees planted today will be a legacy for all who come after us. I hope you have a safe and enjoyable weekend.

Thank you,



Tom Satterly, P.E.
Associate Vice President for Facilities Management

P.S. Check out this video of FM planting some of the 150 trees (<https://youtu.be/Z8z5RimVTRQ> and <https://source.colostate.edu/150-new-trees-celebrate-csus-sesquicentennial/>) and also an article about the Oval trees (<https://alumline.source.colostate.edu/the-oval-preserving-a-living-legacy/>), calling out the work of FM.

Sources: <https://bouldercolorado.gov/forestry/the-benefits-of-trees> & <https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/90720.html>

<https://www.fm.colostate.edu/fmDaily>
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