

ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Jude Gates, Director of Facilities, Planning, and Information Technology

Our Mission is to provide, safely and efficiently, all of the infrastructure services that contribute to quality of life for our residents, safety of the personnel in the Correctional facility, and maximum productivity of the employees. Operations are structured with an eye to the long term good of the County. We focus on preventive maintenance to foster equipment and facility longevity, and to maximize stability in expenditures. We exercise land management strategies consistent with our responsibility for stewardship of the natural resources.

In addition to the day to day operations and maintenance of the facilities, the following projects were conducted and/or overseen by Engineering & Maintenance Services in 2008.

- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliant signage was installed in the nursing home. This project is also valuable to emergency response personnel.
- Flooring was replaced in selected areas of the nursing home and jail.
- Energy efficient lighting was installed in the Blaisdell building resident rooms.
- Replacement of ceilings and installation of energy efficient lighting was done in the dietary area of the nursing home.
- The roof on the Blaisdell building was replaced. The new roof is better insulated, contributing to our efforts at energy savings.
- An automatic door for security and energy efficiency was installed at the Underhill building of the nursing home.
- Upgraded video equipment was installed at the House of Corrections.
- The parking lot at the House of Corrections was replaced.
- The exterior brick on the Administration building was repaired and restored.
- Fire alarm system upgrades on the Complex progressed to a new addressable system in the Administration building.
- Implementation of digital television (DTV) systems in both the nursing home and the House of Corrections. This was a seamless transition to digital television and saved money by disconnecting several cable connections.
- The Information Technology division is responsible for supporting and maintaining the Rockingham County Complex computer network, software applications, desktop computers, and telephone systems.
 - Upgraded and expanded the use of the imaging system for human resources and medical records.
 - New firewalls and redundant Internet connections to support finance and nursing home applications were installed.
 - Implementation of a new contract for telecommunication services with an estimated savings of \$5,000 yearly.
- The Energy Management Program undertaken in 2003 continues to be a success. The audited energy savings in 2008 were in excess of \$242,000; daily water usage continues to be approximately 20,000 less per day. We continue to explore all opportunities for conservation and savings.

Every member of Engineering & Maintenance Services contributes to our success and the achievement of our Mission. While we are, almost by definition, “behind the scenes,” the work of this department touches on every resident, staff and visitor every day. I truly appreciate the dedication and hard work that goes into this task.