



Estate Management Department

Newsletter

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Estate Management Department
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“The EMD announces the suspension of services at Motor City...”

Welcome

Welcome to this issue of the Estate Management Department’s Quarterly Newsletter. In addition to our website (<https://www.mona.uwi.edu/emd/>), our newsletter is our way of connecting to let you know what we are doing to meet the facilities management needs of the Campus. It seeks to, among other things, raise awareness of Campus-related facilities management issues and highlight achievements of the Department. We invite you to provide us with your feedback via estatemanager@uwimona.edu.jm.

Motor City & Repairs

EMD announced the suspension of services at the Motor City and Repairs effective June 01, 2021. This suspension is part of a current thrust to reduce operational expenditure while seeking to build capacity in other areas of the EMD operations to ensure greater levels of responsiveness.

Car washing and vehicle scanning services will continue to be offered to the Campus Community via the Transport Section of the EMD. Services will be scheduled through appointments only and are offered on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

West Road Drain and Road Rehabilitation Project

The EMD in collaboration with the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF)/Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre (GTRCM) completed the rehabilitation of 262 meters of roadway in the West Road area of the Campus. This Project is part of the TEF's objective to improve partnerships with institutions that will drive and enhance Jamaica's tourism product and services.

The Project is intended to:

- improve roadway surface and connect drainage elements to improve the lifespan of the road surface
- improve the aesthetics of the area; and
- reduce the need for maintenance

The scope of the Project included:

- repaving the roadway from the gate of West Road to the gate of TEF/GTRCMC
- a mono-pitched roadway with the construction of relevant curbs and channels
- construction of a "U" drain to improve the existing tie into the U channel drain, running behind the Call Centre and Co-Generation Plant, and leading to an existing constructed retention pond.
- The EMD, represented by Carlyle Beharie, Superintendent of Building Works, provided technical support for the Project.

INNOVATIONS & INITIATIVES

Exploring Indigenous Methods of Pest Control

The Mona Campus sits on a belt of termite colonies that has significantly impacted plant health, building structures and wood content. Efforts aimed at termite control have been on going and has cost the Campus millions of dollars. The traditional method of treatment has been the use of chemicals, which often linger in the environment.

The Sanitation and Grounds Section is currently experimenting in the use of an indigenous method of termite control. This involves introducing red herring into the termite mound and allowing the termites to feed on the dry fish. It is believed that over time as the termites feed on the red herring, their body odour will change triggering cannibalism among nest mates. This will eventually kill the colony.

The experiment is in the observation stage and there has been encouraging results so far.

Hurricane Tips

The Atlantic hurricane season is officially underway. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Climate Prediction Centre anticipates a 60% chance of an above- normal hurricane season. However, experts do not anticipate the historic levels of storm activity seen in 2020. They have predicted a range of 13-20 named storms.

Preparedness is key to surviving a hurricane. Here are some tips to follow:

- Check on these emergency items: water, boots, raincoats, flashlights and batteries, battery-powered radio, hurricane lamps, matches, hurricane shutters, hooks and latches.
- Keep plastic bags, nails, hammer and other tools handy.
- Have on hand simple first-aid supplies.
- Stock 4-5 days' supply of food that does not need cooking or refrigeration.
- Make sure you have material for battening up doors and windows.
- See that galvanized sheeting on your roofs, out-buildings and fences are securely fastened.
- If your house is in a high-risk area, subject to a storm surge (tidal wave) or flooding, be sure you know of a safe shelter; preferably with relatives or friends.



Trim trees with branches near to buildings or electrical lines. Also pick fruits off trees as these can be carried by the wind and cause further damage.

Be sure to understand the hurricane warning system, that is, the three phases - Alert, Watch and Warning.

Hurricane **warnings** indicate that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are *expected* somewhere within the specified area. These warnings are issued 36 hours in advance of the onset of the event.

A hurricane **watch** means that hurricane conditions (sustained winds of 74 mph or higher) are *possible* within the specified area. A hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm-force winds in an area.

**Keep in touch with your Parish
Disaster Preparedness Office**

Calm, cool and confident, this gentleman is often seen around the Campus with a bucket truck or tall ladder in tow, doing his job without fuss.

It is said that quiet waters run deep, and this certainly is the case for Allan whose journey with UWI/EMD began in 1995 as an electrical contractor. He became a member of staff in 2007.

His path to becoming an electrical supervisor was not easy as there were several hurdles to overcome. According to Allan his dream and sole ambition has been to become an electrician. When he was asked to choose a skill at his former high school, Donald Quarry High, he was allowed to make a first and second choice. His first and second choice were both electrical installation!

After 14 years as a contractor, he was considered for the vacant position of Electrical Technician, Grade A. He excelled in this position and after six months he was asked to supervise junior electricians.

His first major project at the Campus was the upgrading of all the electrical transformers to 24 kilovolts. He was chosen as part of the EMD team to work with the JPS. He says, “it was a great learning experience, I learnt a lot about splicing of transformers, especially 24kv transformers.”

Allan’s determination to pursue excellence and advance in his chosen field saw him pursuing several academic programmes. He recalls walking from UWI to Excelsior High every evening while doing a course in electrical installation. He graduated with credit. He has done courses at VTDI, gone overseas for training where he was certified as a Generator and Emergency Power Technician, and he is currently pursuing a Supervisory Management course at The UWI Open Campus.

When asked if he loved his job he replied emphatically, “I love my job! I love it dearly!” He has a desire to know and to learn something new every day.

As a supervisor he is very hands-on with his staff and provides close leadership without micro-managing. He is always on site with them to observe what they are doing, provide instruction, and compliment them on a job well done.

Meet Allan Campbell Electrical Supervisor



He has an open-door policy and maintains a casual but respectful relationship with his staff and colleagues.

Allan is motivated to succeed, by his wife and two children. He describes his family as his cheerleaders and biggest supporters.

His vision for the EMD/Electrical Section includes seeing the workers properly uniformed and equipped with safety gears and equipment. Improvement in safety standards and the availability of material and equipment is also on his wish list.

His goal for the next five years is to complete a master’s degree and to be in a management position in the organization.

We wish this rising star all the best.

Acknowledgements & Commendations

Celebrating Father's Day 2021 in the Sanitation and Grounds Section

The men in the Sanitation and Grounds Section were gifted with tokens of appreciation on June 18, 2021, in celebration of Father's Day. Three fathers were selected in a lottery and were presented with gift baskets. The lucky recipients were: (Clockwise/Top Right) Kewayne Green (Sewage Plant Operator), Damion Johnson (Pest Control Technician), Keith Hibbert (Heavy Duty Driver) and Mark Bryan (Pest Control Technician).



A breakfast treat for the men on Monday June 21, 2021, brought the curtain down on the Father's Day celebrations. We wish all fathers a happy, healthy, and prosperous life.

Maintenance Tips



Pest Control

A pest is described as an annoying or troublesome person, animal, or thing; a nuisance; an insect, or other small animal that harms or destroys garden plants, trees, etc.; a deadly epidemic disease, especially a plague; pestilence.

Some examples of pests are mosquitoes, flies, roaches, rats, birds, myriapods and fleas.

The most common method of pest control is the use of pesticides—chemicals that either kill pests or inhibit their development. Pesticides are often classified according to the pest they are intended to control.

There are four methods of effective pest control:

- **Organic Pest control.** This is the use of natural or homemade insecticides. Examples include: salt spray, mineral oil and garlic spray.
- **Chemical Pest Control.** Chemical pesticides, often based on man-made substances, are designed to reduce the vitality of pest populations while leaving your plants unharmed. Chemical controls eradicate common pests in several different ways. Some will kill pests as soon as they come in contact with the chemical.
- **Biological Pest Control.** Biological control is the use of living organisms to suppress pest populations, making them less damaging than they would otherwise be. Natural enemies of insects play an important role in limiting the densities of potential pests. These natural enemies include predators, parasitoids, and pathogens.
- **Electronic Pest Control.** Ultrasonic pest repellants are electronic devices that emit high-frequency sounds designed to repel, injure or kill household pests, such as rodents and insects.

The most effective way to prevent pest infestation is to practice good *hygiene* inside and out.

Here are some tips:

- Keep all food off the floor in sealed containers that are not accessible by pests.
- Block off all holes in the premises that may afford access to rodents with a hard, gnaw- resistant material.
- Block all gaps under doors and fit pest screens to doors and windows that may be left open.
- Keep premises clear of debris and garbage.

Visit Our Website

<https://www.mona.uwi.edu/emd/>

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