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Summer progress



The Saturn/UT Land Use Team has had a busy couple of months. Pruning and weeding were top priority these past months; Premier has done an excellent job in keeping the mulchbeds at the team member entrances weed-free. The habitat areas along Ephlin Parkway and the parking lot areas were also recently mowed. These areas are mowed once a year in early to mid-July when birds have finished raising their clutches so mowing does not damage eggs or young. The wildflowers planted this spring at the south entrance are in full bloom. The black-eyed susans pictured give a splash of color and texture in front of the wooden fence.

Integrated Pest Management

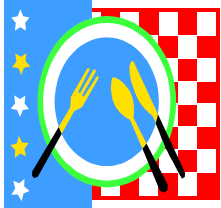
For most of us, applying chemical pesticides and herbicides is the most effective way to control pests and weeds. However, chemical control is only a reaction to a problem, thus making it only a short-term or temporary solution. Implementing an integrated pest management (IPM) approach is a much more economical, environmental and sociological strategy for pest control. One of the main characteristics of IPM is the integration of two or more management tactics to minimize pests for the long-term. These are listed below:

- ❑ **Chemical control**- limited use for short-term effects
Example: herbicide, repellent
- ❑ **Cultural control**- deliberate manipulation of the environment to make it less favorable for the pests
Example: mowing, removal of standing water, rotate fields
- ❑ **Mechanical control**- direct or indirect methods to destroy pests
Example: handpulling small populations of weeds, disturbance
- ❑ **Biological control**- use of natural enemies
Example: predators, parasites, pathogens

As part of the Land Use Project, Drs. Jerome Grant, Paris Lambdin, and Reid Gerhardt of the University of Tennessee are preparing a report Saturn could follow to implement IPM as a new best management practice. The report will also contain an appendix with pest information (biology, management, and monitoring,) for the particular species that Saturn deals with now and potential pests that will be in the area in the future (e.g. gypsy moth and fire ants). Such pests as musk thistle, Japanese honeysuckle, privet, bagworms, mosquitoes, wasps, and starlings have been identified as pests seen around Saturn. If you have any to add to this list (either insect or plant pest), please call Karen at x5029 or email at KarenELSmith@aol.com.

Cafeteria Study

Another aspect of the Land Use Project concerns the cafeteria wastes. Working together with Waste Management, Drs. Bill Park and Forbes Walker, of UTK and Rodney Rockett and Erik Spalvins with Knox County Solid Waste are researching the possibility of switching from polystyrene products to recyclable materials in the cafeterias. This would minimize the amount of material that is presently sent to the landfill. This is another step towards continuous improvement, as well as a



benefit for the environment that Saturn hopes to implement. Further research is necessary before any final decisions will be made.

As a means to give us a better idea of the number of people who use the cafeterias, please fill out the form below and send via interoffice mail to Karen Smith, MD-371-998-M20.

Landscaping for Energy Conservation

It has been proven that the strategic placement of shade trees around buildings can significantly reduce the cost of summer air conditioning. This is most true for residential housing, but industrial buildings can benefit to a

limited extent. The Saturn buildings (west and south facing walls) have been evaluated for the feasibility of planting shade trees to help maximize air conditioning cost reduction with respect to safety and appearances. Further results from this study will be shared in the next issue of *Ground Facts*.



Be sure to check out the Saturn/UT Land Use Project on the Saturn Intranet!

<http://www.saturn.gm.com/saturn/mfg/cuc/UTLand%20Use/index.htm>

and on the Internet!

<http://eercut.utk.edu/slup>

Species Spotlight: Southern Magnolia

The sweet smell of Southern Magnolia is an unforgettable sign that summer is among us. The southern magnolia is one of only a few native evergreen trees found in this region. They grow in moist soils of valleys and low uplands with various other hardwoods. This tree stands at a height of 60-80 feet with a cone-shaped crown. The leaves are large (5-8 inches long), elliptical, and thick. They are shiny green above and pale with rust-colored hairs beneath. The large, fragrant flowers have six or more petals and bloom in late spring and summer. Many florists use the dried leaves and flowers in arrangements. The wood from the bark is often used in furniture, boxes, cabinetwork, and doors.



The following information will help us to determine the number of people who use the cafeterias on-site.

I use the cafeteria on a regular basis.

Which cafeteria do you use? GA___ Body Systems___ Powertrain___ SSPO___ Northfield___
How many times a week do you use the cafeteria?___

I use the cafeteria as carry-out and eat lunch in my team center.

I bring my lunch (including any other food not on-site, e.g. McDonalds, Burger King) and eat in the cafeteria.

Please return this form to Karen Smith at 371-998-M20. Thank you for your time.

Ground Facts is a bi-monthly update on the application of new ideas to reduce grounds maintenance costs, improve aesthetics, and increase environmental benefits at the Saturn site. Work is sponsored by Facilities Maintenance at Saturn and the University of Tennessee in a partnership agreement.