

USB News
Facilities Management
April 2014

Integrated Pest Management Program: Ron Jennings

To most people, insects are a nuisance and a source of fear. For Ron Jennings they are his passion and life's work. Ron is JMU's Integrated Pest Manager. He has been in the industry for approximately 30 years and studied entomology (study of insects) at Purdue University. Mr. Jennings' career at JMU started in 1997. Initially, his role was more as a contract administrator for the pest management program, which outsourced the pest control. He has since re-written the contracts to be more environmentally friendly and does much of the pest control himself to include the dorms and any emergencies that arise.



Traditionally, pest control practices concentrated on killing bugs and often this was done through pesticide application. These methods could potentially harm people or the environment and many insects are actually beneficial. At JMU, environmental factors drive pest control practices. Ron's focus is on controlling pests not killing them. There are four ways to do this: environmentally, mechanically, biologically and, as a last resort, chemically. Environmental control could involve educating faculty, staff or students. A common method of mechanical control is limiting pests' access to a building by blocking entry points. Biological methods use other insects to control a specific pest population. Routine application of pesticides has been eliminated on campus. Chemical control is now done less often and utilizes organic material.

Ron has encountered a great variety of pests throughout his time at JMU. One of the more challenging ones was the German cockroach. Years ago, the insect was so prevalent on campus that it was typical to receive 20-30 calls a day about them. Elimination through biological and mechanical control has been one of the department's biggest successes. It has been ten years since he received a call regarding the German cockroaches. Ron also deals with pests of the furry nature. One of the more interesting situations involved a student and a squirrel. The student found the squirrel outside, lying still on the ground. The student brought the animal inside, thinking it was cold. At some point the squirrel awakened and was not too happy to be in a confined, unfamiliar space. It went "nuts", running everywhere and scratching the student. Ron caught the animal, but it had to be killed to determine if it had rabies. Meanwhile, the student had to start undergoing rabies shots. The lesson to be learned is to let a professional assess the situation first!

Ron has really appreciated the university's commitment to more permanent and sustainable pest control practices. It has enabled him to improve all aspects of pest control management, including the contract Ron has drawn up and used with JMU's pest control contractors. Due to their innovative focus on environmental safety, these contracts are also being used by other educational institutions. JMU's pest management program is now one of the best in the county.

JMU's Spring Commencement Schedule

Graduate Ceremony

University Ceremony

College Ceremonies

Convocation Center

Bridgeforth Stadium

Various locations

Friday, May 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Friday, May 9 at 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 10 at 9:00 a.m.

FM / HR Updates

- **Open enrollment** for Health benefits is scheduled for May 1 - 23.
- The **Division of Administration and Finance will host its annual meeting** on Tuesday, May 13th at the Festival Student and Conference Center Ballroom. Continental breakfast begins at 8:00 and the meeting starts at 8:40. The meeting will adjourn between 11:00 – 11:30. JMU Transportation will provide shuttle service. Details on the shuttle schedule and the meeting schedule will be sent in late April.



Grace Street Housing Project



New University Health Center



Interior of Univ. Health Center

CommonWealth One Community Shred Day, April 26

Join us at our Harrisonburg branch, located at 42 Terri Drive, on Saturday, April 26, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for our free Community Shred Day to securely dispose of your personal information and to celebrate Youth Week.

Shredding is a great way to protect yourself from identity theft and fraud! Bring all your old documents, papers, receipts and other personal materials and we will securely shred them for free, on-site, while you wait. You can watch the truck as it safely and securely destroys your personal information. Materials with paper-clips and staples are permitted, but three-ring binders and binder clips cannot go through the shredder.

Our Community Day also includes light refreshments and fun activities for adults and children. We are celebrating National Credit Union Youth Week with a bounce house, fun games, door prizes, face painting, and more. Your children can learn more about the importance of saving and good financial habits.



FM Birthdays for April

Angela Harper 4/2	Bill Baker 4/2	Hope Smith 4/2	Jolane Connelly 4/3	Robin Falls 4/3
Nicholas Ciccone 4/4	Pierce Pitsenbarger 4/6	John Keplinger 4/7	James May 4/7	Sandra Nesselrodt 4/7
Steve Tennyson 4/7	Tony Kitta 4/9	Aaron Largent 4/9	Marvin Gooden 4/10	Terry Grimm 4/12
Chris Cooley 4/14	Jonathan Gordon 4/14	Jeff Knicely 4/14	Miranda Eppard 4/15	Greg O'Shell 4/15
Sandy Brown 4/16	Debrah Lam 4/16	Jeff Holbert 4/17	Melissa Borrer 4/18	Aaron Conard 4/18
Linda Hensley 4/18	Bobby Jenkins 4/18	Esther Wright 4/18	Preston Fitzwater 4/24	Don Hobbs 4/24
Justin Stilson 4/24	Brenda Hottinger 4/25	Jeremy D Miller 4/25	Jackie Hamilton 4/26	Debbie Towe 4/26
Heide Horne 4/27	James Frank 4/28	Lucius Hensley 4/28	David Jetton 4/28	Diana McNett 4/28
Tim Dean 4/29	Michael Lucas 4/29	Albert Buracker 4/30		