

## UAF Facilities Services Indoor Plant Program Origins

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Studies show that Americans spend ninety percent of their lives indoors (RedOrbit September 19, 2005), which means that good indoor air quality is vital for good health. As stated in the February 2005 SixWise Newsletter article, The Health Benefits of House Plants, Plants are the lungs of the earth: they produce the oxygen that makes life possible, add precious moisture, and filter toxins. Houseplants can perform these essential functions in your home or office with the same efficiency as a rainforest in our biosphere.

The UAF Indoor Plant Program was created by Facility Services as a result of numerous calls received over the last two years regarding the health and appearance of the indoor plants throughout the campus. The program began by inventorying all the plants located within public areas of each campus building. Public areas include entries, hallways, lobbies, classrooms, teaching labs, reception areas, lounges & study areas.

The inventory process discovered over 600 plants in public areas campus wide that were provided by department faculty, staff, and/or students. Collectively, the plants fell within a range of "very well cared for" to "erfc ttiaCTmgcs &depar f &de5 BT A1( )TJ 0 M(s)-8(,anr)-6.4(o)-1F4(l)-8.-1.1( )-s.e96 72ell512.2(v)4(i)3.2-305