

Staying Connected with Campus Services



In a recent email message to Dartmouth Dining staff, director Jon Plodzik wrote, "Students feel the same anxiety we all feel regarding the happenings of the world these days. Our job is to be part of the solution, to be a calming influence. Let's do this!" These are good words for us all to consider. Thanks, Jon.

Creative Dining Solutions

The logistical challenges to feed students during the mandatory 14-day quarantine period are daunting, but Dartmouth Dining is eager to put their plans in motion. The anticipated quarantine period begins Sept. 9 for all incoming and returning undergraduate students. They'll arrive in groups of 400-500 per day until all 2,300 students are on campus. For the first 2-3 days, Dartmouth Dining will deliver food to the common areas in residence halls and Greek houses based on the food preferences students indicate in an online survey.

After those initial days—once students get a negative COVID test result—their meals will be served at one of six Service Locations for the remainder of the 14-day quarantine period. The Service Locations include '53 Commons and House Center A (referred to as "The Onion") as well as four tent sites to be set up around campus. During these few weeks, all food will be prepared at '53 Commons and delivered to the Service Locations. In an email to Dartmouth Dining staff, DDS Director Jon Plodzik wrote, "We anticipate closing the Service Locations on Saturday Sept. 26, so nothing will be 'normal' until then for us or for the students."

As students complete the 14-day quarantine period, they will be free to eat at other dining venues once they open:

- Collis Café - opens Sept. 15
- Novack Café - opens Sept. 21
- Ramekin - opens Sept. 8
- Collis Market - opens Sept. 28
- '53 Commons - opens Sept. 27

"Sadly," reports Jon Plodzik, "due to the reduced number of students and COVID Safety cleaning concerns, we will not be reopening [Courtyard Café] for the fall and winter terms. Staff from the CYC will be working at '53 Commons to assist in covering open positions and serving food, since self-service is gone for the near future."



House Center A, "The Onion", will be a Dining Service Location during the quarantine period.

Wrapping Your Head Around Mapping

Have you ever thought about how a map is created? It's a fascinating, complicated business in which Kevin Nelson, the Spatial Database Manager in the Planning Office, is an expert. Using a system called "ArcGIS", a two- and three-dimensional mapping tool, Kevin tracks every building and parcel of land that Dartmouth owns.

To build the basic [Campus Map](#), Kevin started with a blank slate and brought in data from other systems. To add a building, for example, he downloaded the building's computer-aided design (CAD) drawings into ArcGIS, then provided the spatial reference to pinpoint the building's exact location on earth using latitude and longitude coordinates. He geo-referenced floor plans to get correct building shapes on the map, and added other data points to create layers of information such as a road layers, topographic layers, and even a layer that shows which GreenPrint printers are working on campus. Kevin considers the Utility Map the most interesting, as it shows details of all the various utilities on, under, and throughout Dartmouth's campus.

Kevin's work requires broad expertise in geospatial awareness, geography, CAD, photoshop, and ADOBE illustrator, along with a lot of common sense. With requests for information regularly coming from faculty, staff, students, outside consultants, etc. Kevin is also very good at time management!