

SUCCESS STORY

TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANTAGES

SSC SPECIALIZES IN:



Custodial & Campus Services



Plant Operations & Maintenance



Grounds Management

SSC | 
services for education
EXPERTISE • COMMITMENT • VALUE



USING TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE OUR SERVICES

SSC is the premium provider of support services for quality-focused educational institutions. We specialize in custodial and campus services, plant operations and maintenance, and grounds management. Our goal is to provide you with the highest standard of customer service and consistent quality. We work with you to create a flexible, customizable, and cost-effective approach that meets your goals and fits your budget.

We strive for constant improvement, so we invest in technology that makes the value we provide even greater. Implementing these new technologies allows us to pass that value on to our clients.

EFFICIENT AND COST-EFFECTIVE

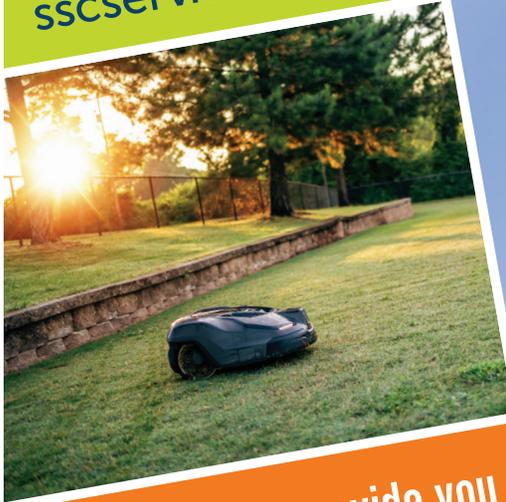
When James Amos, project manager at Tarleton State University in Texas, heard his regional director talking about potentially starting a drone technology program at his campus, he volunteered to be the main drone operator and pilot for Tarleton State and surrounding sites. SSC paid for James to complete training so that he's an FAA-certified drone pilot.

"We can do roof inspections of our buildings, and we have thermal capability so we can see any hot or cold spots," James says. "It's so much easier to do our job using the drone. Being able to access hard-to-reach areas without renting expensive equipment and taking several hours to assess a rooftop area saves our clients thousands of dollars. The cost savings of this type of application is phenomenal, and the savings goes directly back to our clients."

"In five minutes, we can get our drone up there and have project site photography and make a video of the construction as it progresses. We can gather footage in real time, so our clients can keep track of how we're doing on a job on a daily basis," says James.

James also says that he's proud to work for SSC because of the investment they're making — not just in technology, but in employees who want to learn new things. "To have a company put faith in you, and to allow you to venture out in something that has a lot of upfront costs is really impactful to me."

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They're taking a chance on new technology, but they're also taking a chance on me. It's been very rewarding, and I'm thankful to work for a company that gives me these opportunities."

The University of Arkansas at Ft. Smith (UAFS) also uses drone technology for campus building inspections, and to map out new landscape plans.

Matt Rich, unit director at UAFS, says he and his team use the drone to take pictures and document areas on campus they want to focus on from a landscaping perspective. They also attach GPS trackers to their trees, so that they can monitor their "green" inventory and get ahead of any potential issues with over- or under-watering.

When Matt first came to UAFS, the inconsistent watering was an issue. He was able to make an immediate impact by pointing this out to the campus administrators. The school paid for new irrigation equipment, but Matt and his team installed it and continue to maintain it. Matt says implementing "smart irrigation" technology saved the school \$40,000 in just one year. Today, they can even control

irrigation from an app on their phones, so the cost savings can continue.

Brad Sherriff, Vice Chancellor at UAFS, appreciates this collaboration. "Our partnership with SSC has been phenomenal," Dr. Sheriff says. "They've been here for two years now, and their impact was immediate. Once they fixed the issues with our irrigation system, they saved us 33% in the first year, and we expect to save 23% annually from our previous costs going forward."

Matt says one of the things he appreciates most about SSC is that he's encouraged to find new solutions to problems. "I'm careful with the budget, and I work with the school to figure out how to make our systems work together," says Matt. "Technology can be expensive, especially when it's new. We have discussions about the upfront cost with our sustainability team, to see where we can make the most dramatic impact."

Discussing each project, Matt says, allows him to be able to tell campus administrators if a newly proposed solution will save money over time, or if it will be a short-term solution.

Another innovative, cost-efficient technology the UAFS team has implemented is using auto mowers to maintain their intramural fields.

"Using auto mowers on the intramural fields is a good solution, because we don't have to send employees out to mow the fields," says Matt. "We have our mowers scheduled to run at times of the day when the fields aren't in use, so when students are ready to play, the fields are always in good shape."

"Landscape industries in general don't use a lot of technology, but we've been able to push boundaries here and try new things," Matt says. "Plus, the mowers save money in the long run, because the purchase costs are recouped so quickly."

"Matt and his team really make an effort to work with the campus staff to find out what they need," says Dr. Sheriff. "He meets regularly with the deans of each department and other campus employees, and has established a good relationship with our student government. So it has almost become a 'hands-off' relationship for me, because he's so efficient at managing those relationships."

Bill Pierce, Plant Operations Manager and UAFS employee, agrees, saying, "SSC has a depth of organization that we didn't previously have. It's a collaborative, engaged partnership. People know they can call our SSC partners and they will get it done. Their efforts and their engagement are really the key factors of our success."