

# Enforcement truck gets “green roof”.

*UMD DOTS has expanded their green roof to an enforcement truck.*

When is seeing an enforcement officer a breath of fresh air? When the enforcement truck has a green “roof”. You may have seen the enforcement truck driving around with ground cover in the back. This isn’t just a special delivery, it is permanent. It is DOTS’ way of demonstrating that it is important to think outside the box when it comes to being green.

DOTS has always been serious about being green and not green like money, green like sustainability. With high efficiency lights in the garages, a green roof on the new shuttle UM building, zero emissions buses, free-to-the-public electric charging stations and proximity based pricing for parking, DOTS has pulled out nearly all the stops when it comes to greening your commute and transportation demand management.

“The list is exhaustive,” says Beverly Malone, assistant director and DOTS “we offer a customized carpool matching program, a growing bicycle program and discounts for taking a chance of giving up your permit. Our garden on wheels is another way to keep green options fresh in student’s minds.”

The plants are identical to those that are growing on the roof of the new shuttle facility on Paint Branch drive and all together they weigh less than another passenger. The extra weight might have a small impact on fuel efficiency but it makes a big statement and gets people talking about green transportation issues who perhaps weren’t talking about it before.

One student was heard saying DOTS should give out flowers with their tickets. Another suggested growing herbs, like mint.

Some students ask why DOTS doesn’t just get the little electric plug-in carts since they have electric charging stations. University regulations prevent departments from purchasing anything other than trucks. Everything else has to be leased at a significant increased cost. Since DOTS has its own maintenance bay, leasing just doesn’t make sense. As a result, they drive trucks when they don’t need the truck bed. DOTS didn’t stop with the trucks, they also have community gardens at the new shuttle facility.

About DOTS:

*The Department of Transportation Services will honor the mission and values of the University of Maryland by providing safe, cost effective, and innovative services which anticipate the needs of our campus community and constituents as they relate to accessing institutionally supported facilities and destinations.*

Contact:

Beverly Malone, Director of Communications  
Department of Transportation Services  
301-314-7275

<http://www.transportation.umd.edu>

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