

July 2019

To the clients of the Heeke ADDL,

Thanks to everyone for their patience during our recent HVAC renovation to the necropsy suite at the Heeke ADDL. The project has been completed to the point that we have taken possession of the rooms and we have resumed normal operating hours, meaning we will once again be performing necropsies Monday through Friday. A size restriction for larger animals is still in place, but, we will accept any animals under 500 lbs for examination. As a rule of thumb, if two people can drag the animal off of a truck bed and onto our loading dock, we will accept the animal for examination.

I would also like to offer an update on our plans to address the lack of a system to move larger animals. The current hoist that was deemed unsafe via two separate groups was removed during the recently completed HVAC renovation and will not be replaced. Using funds leftover from other projects at the ADDL, we have decided to replace the hoist with an overhead monorail system that will be mounted to the floor, rather than suspended from the ceiling. This new system will avoid using the wooden beam that supported the previous hoist and bypass any concerns about the ability of the ceiling and wall to support the load. The expense of this project will exceed the threshold that determines whether the university must initiate its process for acquiring different bids, according to rules set forth by the State Board of Accounts. Thus, the ADDL is required to work through Purdue's facilities department, which manages building and renovation projects. The normal process for initiating this project would place its completion sometime in 2021; however, the ADDL has applied for a variance that will essentially "fast-track" this project through the university system. If the variance is granted, the process can begin immediately, with likely anticipated completion early in 2020. I will provide another update about this project once I have a firm timeline for its completion.

As always, feel free to call the Heeke laboratory at 812.678.3401 with any questions or to speak with me about any concerns you may have.

Thank you for your continued support of the ADDL,



Grant N. Burcham  
Assistant director and veterinary diagnostician, Heeke ADDL