



The Division of Comparative Medicine (DCM) in partnership with Operations and Facilities Management Department (OFMD) are implementing a multi-year Rodent Capacity and Infrastructure Renewal Project to provide increased holding capacity to support ongoing census growth.

This work will take place in two of the primary vivarium facilities: CSRB-NTA (5th, 6th, and 7th floors) and East McDonnell (4th, 6th and 7th floors), however, impacts may be felt throughout the other vivarium facilities as accommodations are made for census during this time of transition.

The project scope of work, which will be completed in phases, includes the following upgrades to vivarium space, infrastructure and equipment:

- **Installation of Individual Ventilated Cage Racks**
 - Increases rodent housing capacity within the same footprint of existing static cage racks
 - Extends cage change frequency to 14 days (from current 7 days)
 - Provides improved air quality at the room and cage level
- **Automatic Watering System**
 - Removes water bottles from caging, resulting in labor, material and equipment cost savings
 - Provides a stable source of water to animals with reduced contaminants
- **Procedure Space Improvements**
 - Common, shared procedure space will be provided in animal holding suites for researcher use within the barrier and promote the reduction of satellite facilities
 - Procedure space will be equipped with biosafety cabinets and animal transfer stations, and can also house researcher specific equipment
- **Local HVAC and Building Automation System Upgrades**
 - The current building controls system and various components have reached the end of their useful life and will be upgraded in conjunction with the capacity and watering projects to minimize disruption to research

For additional information, FAQs, a timeline, and project updates, visit the [project page](#) on DCM's website (access requires a WUSTL Key).

Attachments:

[Rodent Capacity FAQs 063017.pdf](#)
