Neighborhood Electric Vehicles at UWRF

The University Center took delivery of the campus’ first neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) in July of 2008. The NEV, purchased for nearly $13,000, is used to transport personnel and equipment throughout campus for Student Affairs events. University staff, Michael Stifter, Changmean Kim, Greg Koehler, Mark Barnard, Nick Anders, Cara Rubis and Kevin Rockwoodow were on hand at delivery.

A second NEV, the Columbia Summit is a reliable and environmentally clean means of transportation that has replaced the UC’s traditional service vehicle.

UWRF acquired a third electric vehicle the last week of June 2009 to be used for campus mail delivery. The new Sustainable Energy Electric Vehicle was built to specifications to meet the needs of UWRF’s Postal Services. Cost is as much as a new conventional van but thousands of dollars are expected to be saved in fuel costs over the life of the vehicle. Electric vehicles also offer the environmental benefit of not adding to our carbon footprint. UWRF is a leader in the state-wide sustainability effort. Wisconsin has a state contract with the manufacturer of the electric vehicles as a number of electric vehicles are in use in Madison.

As funding is available, Facilities Management and other areas of the campus will continue to expand the use of NEVs where possible.

Photos by Jens Gunelson.