



UA officials plan to list campus gender-neutral bathrooms

Andrew Elkins
Associate Editor
@andrew_elkins_

UA officials are working to create a resource that will list or identify gender-neutral bathrooms across campus.

Of the 653 bathrooms on campus, 90 are gender-neutral ADA family bathrooms, but there are buildings that do not have gender-neutral bathrooms, Jay Huneycutt, director of planning and design for facilities management, said in an email. Officials have included gender-neutral bathrooms in all new projects, including both full-building renovations and new construction projects.

Other campuses across the country, like Vanderbilt University, the University of Texas, Boston University, the University of Washington and the University of Minnesota, provide students with a list of gender-neutral bathrooms on their websites.

The UofA does not have a list like this available to students. Officials have been collecting information on gender-neutral bathrooms around campus as they work on making a list, Huneycutt said.

The next step to ease the search for gender-neutral bathrooms is to work with University Relations to add where they are located on campus maps, Huneycutt said.

Some students have noticed difficulties finding gender-neutral bathrooms on campus, leading to added anxiety and stress.

Troy Warfield, a sophomore who prefers to use gender-neutral pronouns, is only aware of two gender-neutral



Photo Illustration

Andrew Elkins Associate Editor

Kimpel Hall has two gender-neutral bathrooms on the first floor of the building. There are more than 90 gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.

bathrooms on campus: in the Arkansas Union and in the Graduate Education building. When they need to use a bathroom on campus, they often have to decide whether it is worth crossing campus for a comfortable bathroom.

Warfield had a difficult time finding gender-neutral bathrooms soon after coming to the UofA, so they gave up searching.

“Part of the thing about there not being any gender-neutral bathrooms is that I have to kind of find the bathrooms that aren’t used very often,” Warfield said. “Which is just kinda weird because it’s just kind of me being like ‘OK, well I hope no one comes in here.’”

The UA Center for Multicultural and Diversity Education and People Respecting the Individual Differences and Equality, or PRIDE, an LGBTQ Registered Student Organization, also do not

have a list of gender-neutral bathrooms.

Multicultural Center Director Sarah Draine said she wants the Multicultural Center to work on compiling a list of gender-neutral bathrooms.

The lack of provisions for people who are not cisgender has worsened Warfield’s mental state because they are constantly thinking about whether they will be accepted in certain spaces, they said.

In hopes of finding a list or other resources, Warfield reached out to LGBTQ support groups through the Pat Walker Health Center, but many of the resources they provide primarily concern mental health rather than general inclusion, they said.

“They’re not like ‘Come to this group, they’re open to non-conforming people,’ or ‘Here’s a list of places that have gender-neutral bathrooms,’ or something like that,” Warfield said. “I

had to actively go out and find those spaces myself, and a lot of it was just stumbling on it.”

Caleb Gladwell, a junior who is a transgender man, thinks there should be more gender-neutral bathrooms in buildings across campus, especially because he often finds himself in buildings with none.

“I’m in those buildings a lot, and it’s really awkward trying to figure out which bathrooms to use because sometimes I don’t feel like I pass enough to use the men’s room, or I pass too much to use the women’s room,” Gladwell said.

Overall, Warfield thinks UA officials could improve on being inclusive of people who are not cisgender, from adding more gender-neutral bathrooms to being more aware of students’ preferred pronouns.

“Otherwise I just have to risk my mental health just going into one of the other bathrooms,” Warfield said.

Alcohol sales expand to basketball games, successful during football season

Tegan Shockley
Staff Reporter
@TeganShockley4

Following a \$705,323 profit from alcohol sales during the football season, Razorback officials have begun selling alcohol at basketball games after SEC officials revised a policy May 31 to allow conference members the choice to sell alcohol at athletic event venues.

Razorback officials hope to expand sales to baseball games after they began selling alcohol at basketball games the weekend of Nov. 15. The revenue from alcohol sales will go into the general budget for Razorback Athletics, which can be used in multiple areas like student-athlete scholarships, operation, coaches and staff, said Rick Thorpe Jr., deputy athletic director of external engagement.

The policy sets a two-drink limit per individual per transaction, and each location will check identification when selling beverages. Draft beer will be sold for \$7, and craft beer and wine will sell for an average of \$9.

10% of the sales will go to Student Affairs to use at the officials’ discretion, said Kevin Trainor, the chief public relations officer for Razorback Athletics. Officials focused on their plan for alcohol sales in the Donald W. Reynolds Razorback Stadium, so they transitioned the equipment, such as coolers, to Bud Walton



Taffy Kavanaugh Staff Photographer

Students cheer on the Hogs during the Western Kentucky game Nov. 9

Arena after the first few basketball games.

Once the first year of alcohol sales has passed, depending on the sales, officials will expand to a more permanent set-up in athletic venues, Thorpe said.

Groups including Student Affairs, Associated Student Government and Razorbacks Offering Accountability Resources were involved in deciding to sell alcohol, Thorpe said.

Alcohol is not allowed in the student section, but those who are 21 or older can purchase and drink beer or wine in other areas of the stadium, Thorpe said.

The main concern about selling alcohol was safety,

Thorpe said. He researched successful programs at other universities, including Ohio State University, West Virginia University, Purdue University and Oklahoma State University and found that when managed properly, alcohol-related incidents decrease.

“It doesn’t mean they’re eliminated by any stretch of the imagination,” Thorpe said. “It certainly continues to be a concern, but Arkansas fans were purchasing alcohol in our facilities already and doing so responsibly.”

During the six home games in the 2019 season, there was an average of 4.5 alcohol-related incidents

each game day, including minors in possession, driving while intoxicated and public intoxication, according to the UA Police Department Daily Crime Log.

During the 2018 season, there was an average of 5 alcohol-related incidents each home game day, and in the 2017 season, there was an average of 3.6, according to the UAPD Daily Crime Log.

Crain said he was not more concerned about safety after alcohol started being sold. He thinks issues related to alcohol were isolated and could be affected by attendance or by earlier game times.



THE ARKANSAS

TRAVELER

The Arkansas Traveler is a public forum, the University of Arkansas’ independent student newspaper and all content decisions are those of the editors.

Contact

203 Kimpel Hall
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Main 479 575 3406
Fax 479 575 3306
traveler@uark.edu

facebook.com/uatrav

twitter.com/uatrav

Editorial Staff

Chase Reavis
Editor-in-Chief
dreavis@uark.edu

Kate Duby
News Editor
kmduby@uark.edu

Grant Lancaster
Digital Managing Editor
gelancas@uark.edu

Drew Watzke
Sports Editor
ajwatzke@uark.edu

Miranda Stith
News Editor
mvstith@uark.edu

Andrew Elkins
Associate Editor
atelkins@uark.edu

Elias Weiss
Opinion Editor
ecweiss@uark.edu

Elizabeth Green
Photo Editor
elg005@uark.edu

Samantha Van Dyke
Associate Editor
snvandyk@uark.edu

Design Staff

Julia Nall
Design Editor

Parker Lane
Staff Designer

Advertising

To advertise with The Arkansas Traveler,
email mhdr@uark.edu

Professional Staff, Advisers

Robyn Ledbetter**
Student Media Director
479.575.6420
rledbet@uark.edu

Cheri Freeland**
Business Manager
479.575.3408
freeland@uark.edu

Bret Schulte**
Faculty Adviser
479.575.6659
bjschult@uark.edu

** All content decisions are those of the student editor and his or her staff. Professional staff and advisers serve to administer certain business operations and offer advice, guidance or technical assistance as requested by the student staff.

Letters

Letters should concentrate on issues, not personalities and must be fewer than 300 words, typed and signed by the author(s). Letters will be edited for accuracy, space and style. Students must list their majors and classification. To submit letters, e-mail travop@uark.edu.

Columnists’ and cartoonists’ opinions

Columnists’ and cartoonists’ opinions are their own and not necessarily the views or opinions of the editorial board.

Memberships

The Arkansas Traveler is a member either institutionally or through individual memberships of the Society of Professional Journalists, the Associated Collegiate Press, The Columbia Scholastic Press Association and the Arkansas College Media Association.

Corrections

The Arkansas Traveler strives for accuracy and clarity in its reporting and will correct all matters of fact. If you believe the paper has printed an error, please notify the editor at 479.575.8455 or e-mail the editor at traveler@uark.edu. All corrections will be printed in the space below each week.