

Just the Facts

THE WYNN HOSPITAL

Each week, “Just the Facts” provides information about a key aspect of The Wynn Hospital being built by Mohawk Valley Health System (MVHS). It is designed to keep our medical staff, employees and volunteers updated and to share with family, friends and neighbors so we keep our community informed about how we’re transforming healthcare in our region.



TOPIC FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2022:

What special accommodations are made during the winter months at The Wynn Hospital construction site?

On average, the City of Utica accumulates 96 inches of snow per year with temperatures ranging from below zero to the low 50s throughout January to March. The teams at The Wynn Hospital construction site work extra hard during these winter months to identify and plan for extreme cold and severe weather conditions. The workers are provided thick, thermal work gloves, thermal balaclavas and micro spikes to keep them warm and to avoid the risk of slipping in icy conditions.



Temporary heat is being operated to keep the inside warm and dry while the workers finish enclosing the building and securing the permanent roof. There are five, 2.5 million BTU heaters to regulate temperatures on levels 1 and 2 of the podium. In the tower, a 990,000 BTU heater is being used and is spread throughout the building. In total, over 25 million BTUs are being supplied throughout the building for temporary heat. These heaters are fueled by temporary natural gas lines which are fed from the Central Utility Plant.

Snow removal is also crucial for the workers to successfully complete their tasks without interruption.

Depending on the severity of the accumulation, different equipment may be used. On an average, the area around the building is cleared using a John Deere 624K Loader with a tire attachment that makes snow removal from the uneven site surface smoother. The team works hard to shovel the snow from the roof into large buckets which are then transported using a SkyTrak Telehandler to a pile on the ground. On February 10, after a major winter storm, the team required heavier equipment to remove large loads of snow from the roof and jobsite. A hydraulic crane and snow tarps were used to remove more than 100 tons of snow within 13 hours. This was 73 loads of snow weighing approximately 3,000 pounds per load. That’s the weight equivalent of a Boeing 757-200 aircraft!