



Facilities update Lower Campus HVAC

Facilities update

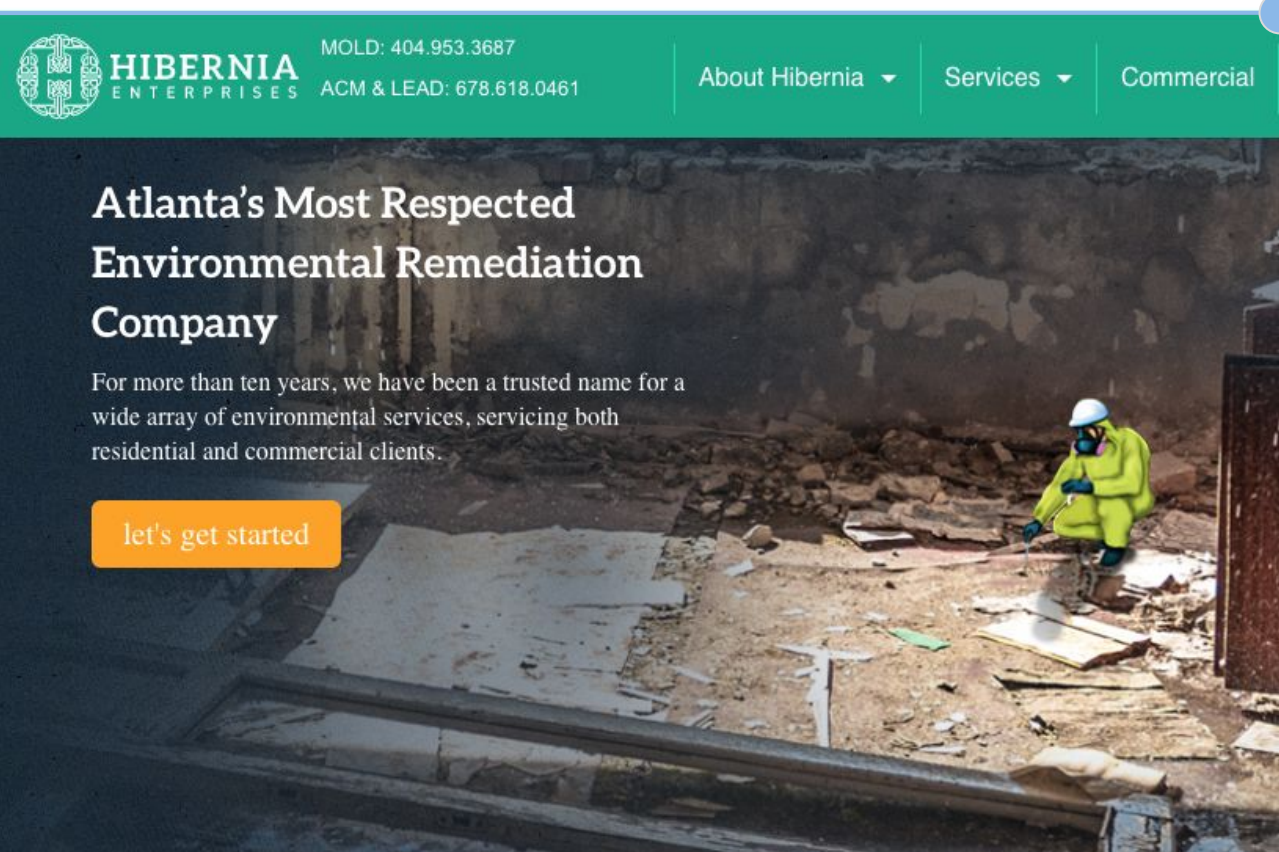
Lower Campus HVAC



- Earlier this school year, two of our air conditioning units broke, leading to fungal growth on the carpets in nearby classrooms. Our custodian spotted the growth before students arrived, and the students were temporarily relocated to other spaces on campus.
- One unit was able to be fixed and the leaks stopped.
- The other unit was unable to be fixed and we were left with water leaking, even though the company came out several times with different fixes to no avail.

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HIBERNIA ENTERPRISES MOLD: 404.953.3687
ACM & LEAD: 678.618.0461

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Atlanta's Most Respected Environmental Remediation Company

For more than ten years, we have been a trusted name for a wide array of environmental services, servicing both residential and commercial clients.

let's get started

The image shows a person in a yellow protective suit and white hard hat working in a demolition site. The background is a dark, textured wall, possibly concrete or brick, with some debris on the floor.

- We brought in Hibernia Environmental to do a deep cleaning, and we learned that the high humidity in the building had been conducive to fungal growth.
- Hibernia recommended that we lower the humidity and work with the professionals for a plan going forward into the fall and winter.
- At that point, we installed industrial-grade dehumidifiers to get the building's humidity back to levels recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency.

While these dehumidifiers are quite loud (and expensive), they were necessary to keep the air safe. And they did the job. In November, the humidity levels were back down to the healthy range and it was deemed safe to remove them.

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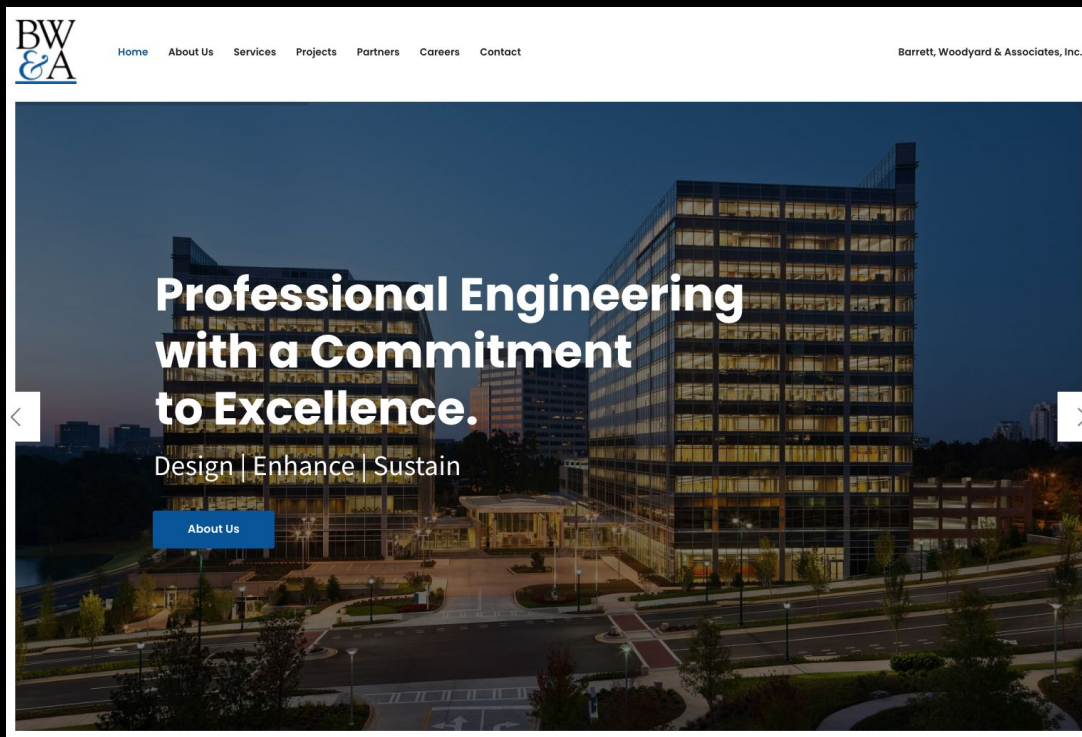
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- After we learned that our environment was no longer conducive to fungal growth, we were advised to do another deep clean of our building. We brought in Hybernia Environmental a second time to carry out a deep clean of the building.
- We were told that we would be in good shape until the air conditioning was turned back on and the humidity outside began to rise as well.
- We knew that this was not a long-term solution, so we solicited quotes for fixing the underlying HVAC issue. Vendors submitted their quotes, each proposing different permanent solutions.



- We knew that we needed the advice of professionals on how to move forward.

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- We engaged engineering firm Barrett, Woodyard & Associates to identify the solutions best suited to keeping our building functional and our community safe.
- We are in receipt of their recommendations and are sending them, in the form of a request for proposals, to three companies. These companies have already surveyed campus and should submit bids soon.
- Regardless of the vendor chosen, the work will not take place before summer break. Repairing or replacing an HVAC system involves major construction over a period of many weeks, so it cannot be done while school is in session.

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- GLOBE staff and outside experts have been working on this problem since early last semester. There is no easy fix.
- The temporary measures put in place to keep everyone safe have been inconvenient. The teachers and staff have done a tremendous job.
- Now what?

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- There are 2 rooms with no central heat. These rooms have space heaters currently.
- The electrical has been fixed so that the heaters should not trip the power. (The building was not wired to handle microwaves, mini fridges, and more in each room.
- We are working with Hibernia to implement a short-term fix for the spring. This will most likely involve the return of the industrial-grade dehumidifiers and a couple of classrooms being relocated.
- We are eagerly waiting for the bids for the long-term fix that will be carried out this summer.