

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital Policy and Procedure		
Heat Ventilation and Air Cooling		
Effective: August 2021	Revised: August 2024	Due to Review: August 2026

POLICY

The Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) utilizes Heat Ventilation and Air Cooling (HVAC) systems in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the design specifications of the HVAC systems. The hospital's HVAC system is controlled by a web based digital management system which is controlled by the Vermont Agency of Administration Buildings and General Services (BGS).

PROCEDURE

Heat is provided by a wood chip fired Messersmith boiler in addition to a propane back up boiler. Domestic hot water is heated by two propane fired water heaters.

VPCH is served by four ventilation units that provide fresh air. Two units are in the penthouse above Snowflake (A) Unit, and two units are located in the penthouse above Red Clover (D) Unit. Heat is delivered to the facility through multiple Variable Air Volume (VAV) units as well as a radiant floor hydronic heating system.

The amount of outside air circulated through the HVAC systems and the number of air changes per hour exceeds minimum industry standards. Air filtering exceeds Minimum Efficiency Reporting Values set forth by the American Society for Health Care Engineering standards for psychiatric hospitals.


Air filters are changed quarterly. The HVAC system monitors filters for efficiency and will indicate the need for a filter change outside of the quarterly schedule.

Intake ports that provide outside air to the HVAC systems are cleaned, maintained, and cleared of any debris that may affect the function and performance of the HVAC system.

Maintenance records for filter changing and air handling unit maintenance are located on a chart attached to each designated care unit of the hospital.

Important HVAC Related Contact Information:

- For HVAC emergencies that BGS is not able to address, contact Trane at 802-864-3816.
- For emergencies with the wood chip fired Messersmith system, that BGS is not able to address, contact Messersmith at 906-466-9010.
- For emergencies with the propane boiler, or propane water heaters that BGS is not able to address, contact New England Air at 802-864-5959.
- There are (5) 1,000-gallon underground propane tanks. There is a master shutoff valve located to the left of the maintenance entry door (LCI). See Appendix A for map).
- Propane is delivered by Irving. Contact them at 888-310-1924. Acct# 3189154-2

Approved by	Signature	Date
Emily Hawes, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Mental Health	 <p>DocuSigned by: <i>Emily Hawes</i> C50275615A62462...</p>	8/27/2024

Appendix A

