

**MALL CONCOURSE – TOM SKAIFE, SUPERVISOR; LAURA BAUER, LEADSWORKER**

Even though September feels like the end of the summer season, the downtown area still has a lot going on. The Taste of Madison, probably our biggest event, is held over Labor Day weekend. It generates a phenomenal amount of trash and has historically required a lot of staff time to clean the pavement afterwards. It also fills up hotel rooms and parking ramps for the weekend, and generally leaves a favorable impression on visitors.

The Ironman Expo and Triathlon draws many people to the city as well, with competitors often arriving days early and bringing family and fans along. It's always standing-room-only on State Street while people watch the marathon.

In addition to these huge events, September also sees the last installations of Jazz at Five and the Majestic Live concert series, as well as numerous festivals and three home football games. And, of course, the students are back.

Here at Mall/Concourse we're of course still in summer maintenance mode. We're washing bus shelters, sweeping sidewalks, mowing grass, watering flowers, and emptying the trash and recycling receptacles. Behind the scenes, however, we're beginning to think about winter. Our salt wagon has received a tune-up, and we're evaluating our other snow removal equipment for needed repairs and upgrades.