LaForce HVAC System Operation

Building Equipment-

A steam converter makes hot water that is circulated throughout the building by electric pumps. An air handler located in the attic provides 100% fresh air to all spaces. There is a heat recovery coil in this unit which pre-heats the incoming outdoor air. It does so by flowing the warmer exhaust air through a coil filled with a glycol mixture and pumping that warmed glycol to another coil in the fresh air stream, thus warming the cold outdoor air.

All rooms have a fan unit in front of each window. This fan unit uses hot water to heat the space.

Heating control-

Enabling heating to the building uses a slightly complicated algorithm to turn on the heating pumps. But basically, with outdoor temperatures that are less than 55 degrees, the heat will be enabled. If outdoor temps stay below 65 for a day or so, the heat will also be enabled until they rise above 65 degrees, at which point the heat shuts off.

Occupant comfort control-

LaForce users must push the occupancy pushbutton on their room thermostats to put the room into an occupied state. The occupied state will last 12 continuous hours.

Once in an occupied state, the room heating fan (located near the windows) will keep the room at a desired room set point.

Occupants can adjust their heating set point by using a slide hidden under the cover on the right side of the thermostat. The scale is accurate (and admittingly hard to read) but gives the occupant a means to control their desired set point.

The set point can be adjusted from a low of 60 Degrees F to 72 degrees F .

The fan unit near the window has a switch to select a fan speed or turn off the fan motor. Please do not turn this off. Select a speed that “feels” good to you. We suggest low so there will be less of a chance of feeling cooler air blowing from the unit.

If the occupancy button is not pushed, the room will be in an unoccupied state. The heating set point will then be 60 degrees.

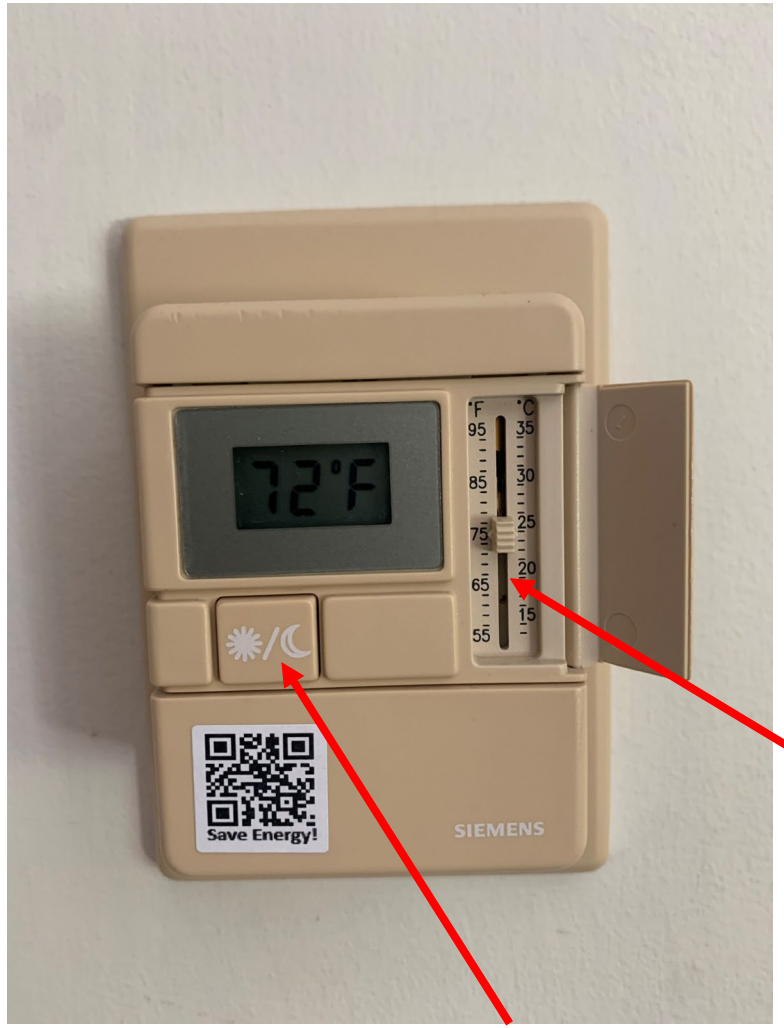
NOTE: The hallway western lounge spaces on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th floors as well as the kitchen and bathrooms on the 5th floor, will be in occupied mode if any room on that floor is in an occupied mode.

If a room is in an occupied state, the windows should be shut and locked. Locking the window provides a tighter seal around the window which keeps cold drafts from blowing in.

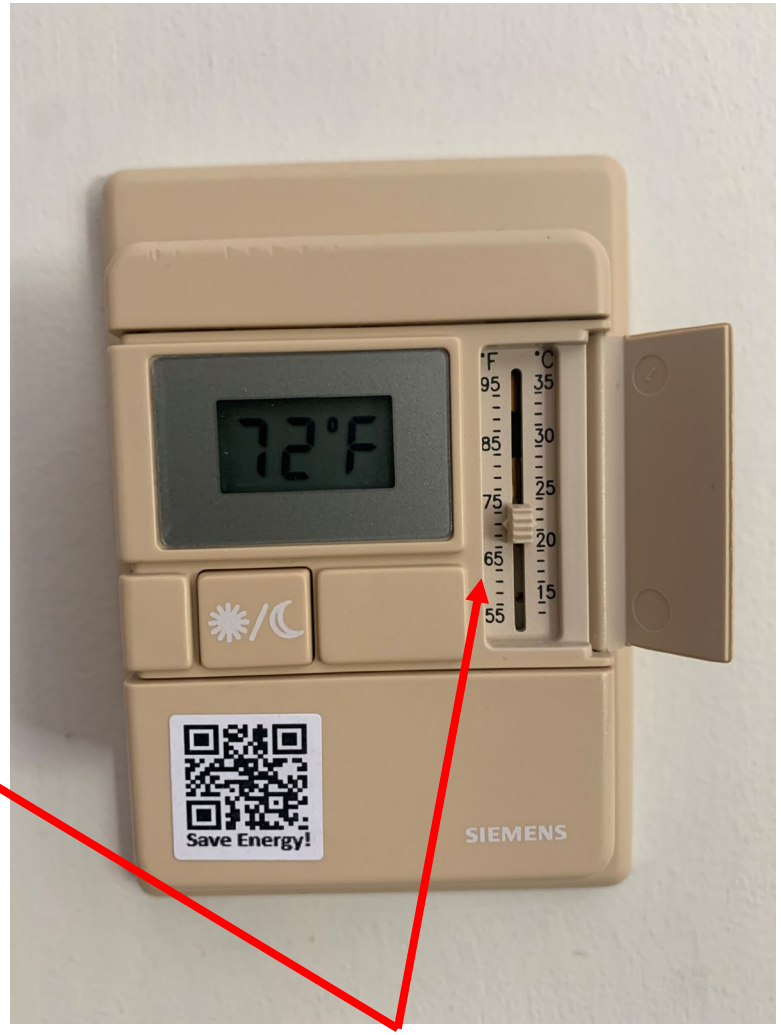
LaForce dorm room thermostat control

The location of most thermostats is on the wall immediately as you enter the room.

Notice that the set point adjustment slide door is closed.



Occupancy button, push this button to put the room into an occupied mode for 12 hours. Pushing the button at any time will reset the counter to 12 hours.



Notice that the slide on the left picture is set for 75. Because 72 is the warmest setting, this thermostat will control to 72 degrees. The slide on the right picture is set for 71. This thermostat will control to 71 degrees.

Heating fan placement and how to find the fan switch.

Two examples of the placement of the heating fan. One in between the windows in the common space, and one in a dorm room, directly under the window.

The windows need to be latched shut (not just shut, but locked) during cold weather. The window frames are made of steel and the marble top of the windowsill conducts cold air into the room. Latching the window closed will help with this transfer of cold air tremendously.

Flip this cover up to access the fan switch.

Air from the room is drawn through vents at the bottom of the unit and exhausted through the grills at the top of the unit. Restricting the airflow at either of these locations with blankets, pillows, clothes, burrows, etc. will only reduce the heating capability of the unit and potentially leave your room cold.

Low is a good position to leave the fan switch. You can play around with higher settings, but if the fan runs too hard, it can blow colder air than desired.

If the switch is in the OFF position, it will not heat the room.