

# *Staff Employee of the Week*

## **Thomas Wilchynski**

**NAME:** Thomas Wilchynski

**JOB TITLE:** Safety and Mechanical Manager

**HOME DEPARTMENT:** Hampton Roads AREC

**COLLEGE OR VP AREA:** College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

**NOMINATED FOR:** President's Award for Excellence and Governor's Workplace Safety Award

**NOMINATED BY:** Dr. Laurie Fox

**VIRGINIA TECH HIRE DATE:** January 10, 2005



### **SUMMARY**

Thomas has been the Safety and Mechanical Manager at the Hampton Roads AREC for 5 years. He is enthusiastic, competent, and professional. Thomas is very talented and always willing to take on new challenges no matter whether they are mechanical, electrical, electronic, and of any other nature. He has tackled facility maintenance and energy efficiency issues and environmental health and safety concerns. In addition to facility tasks, Thomas also assists the AREC faculty with a variety of research needs, from fabricating, to repairing items or instruments, to setting up field studies. He works easily with faculty from three departments on a wide range of projects to help keep the research on time and on track. He never hesitates to assist when asked for advice or when presented with unique and challenging dilemma. Thomas is much more than a Safety and Mechanical Manager. He is also a fixer, innovator, and money and time saver. His experience and enthusiasm make him a valuable resource. He is a natural leader with a wonderful sense of humor and a very straightforward and practical manner.