



Phipps Conservancy and Botanical Gardens Welcome Center

Size: 11,454 sq ft

Location: Pittsburgh, PA

Owner Phipps Conservatory, Inc.

LEED™ Rating: Certified LEED Silver

Costs: \$449 per sq. ft.

Completion Date: March 31st, 2005

Building Overview

Phipp's Welcome Center, designed by Pittsburgh's IKM Incorporated, replaces a pavilion that was built in the 1960s and complements the original design of the century-old Conservatory. Built both above and below ground for aesthetic and environmental reasons, the Welcome Center features a green roof and will be surrounded by lush gardens.

Sustainable Sites

- The new 78-seat Cafe Phipps features fresh, organic, and environmentally-friendly merchandise.
- The building's glass dome was designed to maximize interior daylighting.
- The building also was designed with a minimal footprint to minimize site disruption.
- Demolition material that could be recycled was donated resell for future building projects.

Water Efficiency

- The front lawn is planted with drought resistant turf varieties, eliminating the need for an irrigation system.
- The landscape beds, planted with sustainable plants, will be irrigated only when necessary using a high-efficiency drip irrigation system.
- High efficiency toilet fixtures will use just 1.5 gallons of water to flush and automatic faucets will reduce water usage.

Energy & Atmosphere

- With a green roof overhead, building will be able to maintain natural storm water flows and reduce the need for air conditioning by up to 10%
- The energy operating the building is derived from wind power, produced on wind farms.
- The internal refrigeration and fire suppression systems use no Hydrochlorofluorocarbons or halons, which contribute to ozone depletion.
- Insulated and low-e glass is used throughout the building and fritted glass is used in the dome to further reduce heat transfer.

Indoor Environmental Quality

- Using low or no VOC paints, adhesives, carpet and other materials in the Welcome Center's construction greatly reduced the quantity of indoor air contaminants.
- To ensure a healthy and clean environment following construction, there was a complete two-week building flush out prior to opening.

Materials & Resources

- Nearly 25 percent of the materials used in construction are manufactured regionally and extracted regionally,
- Much of the construction materials were made of recycled content including steel, dry wall and ceiling tile.

Team

- ▶ IKM Incorporated-Architects
- ▶ Atlantic Engineering Services
- ▶ Lovorn Engineering
- ▶ Turner Construction Company
- ▶ Architectural Energy Corporation
- ▶ Marshall Tyler Rausch
- ▶ Crawford Consulting Services
- ▶ Hillbish McGee Associates

