



The Phoebe Hall Knipling Outdoor Lab
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Outdoor Lab's New Classroom Building Achieves Silver LEED®

Feb. 9, 2010 (Arlington, VA) The Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA) announced today that the Phoebe Hall Knipling Outdoor Laboratory classroom building was awarded LEED® Silver by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI). LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

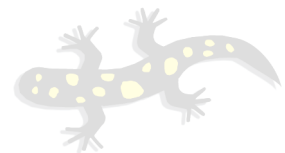
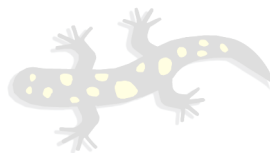
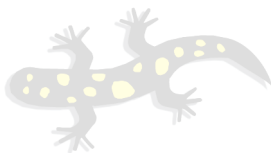
"We are extremely pleased that our new classroom building has achieved the Silver LEED certification. Our goal of creating a natural learning environment for Arlington County School students has been enhanced with a building that reflects our commitment to the environment," said Mike Nardolilli, President of the AOE.

The Phoebe Hall Kniping Outdoor Lab achieved LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and water, LEED certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

"Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The Outdoor Lab project efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come."

LEED Certification of the Outdoor Lab was based on a number of green design and construction features that positively impact the project itself and the broader community. These features include:

- Re-use of existing building footprint to minimize disturbance of surrounding area
- Salvaging materials from existing lab building for use in other Lab projects
- Recycling approximately 60 percent of construction waste
- Use of native plantings for landscaping to minimize need for watering/eliminate irrigation



- Rainwater harvesting system
- Cellulose building insulation with high recycled material content
- Light colored metal roofing for reflectivity and recycled content
- Low-VOC emitting indoor materials
- Indoor air quality monitoring system

“Working in partnership with Sumter Contracting and Gauthier, Alvarado and Associates, we were able to ensure that we could build the new classroom building efficiently while remaining sensitive to the natural environment and ensuring sustainable elements were used to the greatest extent possible,” said Nardolilli.

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Arlington Outdoor Education Association (AOEA)

The Phoebe Hall Knipling Outdoor Laboratory, (The Outdoor Lab), is maintained by a non-profit association – The Arlington Outdoor Education Association, Inc. (AOEA). The AOEA is managed by a Board of Directors, made up of educators, scientists, and administrators that are dedicated to providing the students of Arlington County a place where they can engage in outdoor studies. The Outdoor Lab is staffed by Arlington teachers.

The Outdoor Lab is a 210-acre facility that supports the science program of Arlington Country Public Schools. It provides a place for environmental education for elementary and secondary school children, a place for children to do water study, to come face to face with creatures native to the area, and to walk through the woods learning about the plants and terrain.

For more information, visit www.outdoorlab.org

U.S. Green Building Council

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.

With a community comprising 78 local affiliates, more than 20,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 100,000 LEED Accredited Professionals, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to soar to \$60 billion by 2010. The USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students.

Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO₂ emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

LEED

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED rating system is the preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. 35,000 projects are currently participating in the LEED system, comprising over 5.6 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 91 countries.

By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.