

The Capitol Visitor Center: CVC Green Features

The Capitol Visitor Center (CVC) was designed to incorporate as many green features as possible within the constraints of its unique requirements.

A few of the CVC's specific green features include:

- Built below an existing parking lot, the CVC is a “redevelopment” of an urban site which has not increased the amount of hard surfaces relative to run-off.

- The East Capitol Grounds will be greener when landscaping is complete in summer 2008. A total of 85 new trees will be planted and will recreate the historical views envisioned in Frederick Law Olmsted's original landscape plan of 1874.



The CVC roof deck revives many of the original Frederick Law Olmsted landscape features including tree-lined views of the Capitol.

- A storm water management system was incorporated into the design to mitigate the impact of run-off and sediment into the city's storm sewer system.

- Air-side Economizer: Systems use outside air for cooling in lieu of chilled water when the outdoor temperature is 60 degrees and below.

- Compact Fluorescent fixtures are used wherever possible and light fixture occupancy sensors have been installed.

- Low flow bathroom fixtures

- Automatic faucets and toilets

- Use of low-emitting construction materials including paints, solvents and carpets (*photo at right*)

- Recycling of 50 percent of construction waste by weight



Only non-toxic paints were used in the CVC

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