



Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council, Inc.

PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Liz Farrell

Communications and Advocacy Manager

(302) 456-7170

lfarrell@cbgsc.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GIRL SCOUTS OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY COUNCIL'S SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LODGE EARNS FIRST LEED PLATINUM CERTIFICATION IN DELAWARE

State-of-the-Art Energy and Environmental Building Receives U.S. Green Building Council's Highest Rating

NEWARK, DE – The Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council, Inc. (GSCBC), announces that its Science and Technology Lodge in Hockessin has been awarded the Platinum Certification for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), making it the first building in Delaware to attain this top rating.

"Delaware is gaining a reputation as a national leader in energy efficiency, and the Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay Council's achievement will make our reputation even stronger," Delaware Gov. Jack Markell said. "The new building will help our environment by reducing pollution and help the Girl Scouts by reducing their energy costs."

"Receiving the LEED Platinum Certification for the Science and Technology Lodge is the realization of our long-held vision to open new doors of environmental learning and leadership to our members and the entire Delmarva Peninsula community," said Anne T. Hogan, CEO of GSCBC. "By becoming one of only a few select buildings in the United States to cross this threshold for environmental quality, sustainability, and innovation, we hope to encourage others to pursue the highest standards of environmental stewardship."

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the LEED rating system is an internationally recognized green building certification system that verifies that a facility was designed and built to

improve performance across critical impact metrics, such as: energy savings; water efficiency; CO₂ emissions reduction; improved indoor environmental quality; stewardship of resources; and sensitivity to the impact of resources on the environment.

The Science and Technology Lodge was designed by the Philadelphia-based firm ReVision Architecture and built by Wilmington-based SC&A Construction. The Lodge has over two dozen energy efficient and environmentally sensitive features, including:

- Designed to operate 50 percent more efficiently than a standard code compliant base building
- Engineered to reduce carbon dioxide emissions roughly equal to a passenger car traveling 40,000 miles per year, through the action of a 12 kilowatt array of photovoltaic (PV) roof panels
- Reduces water usage by 40 percent, due in part to “dual flush” toilets, which use less water for liquids and more for solids, and through automatically timed showers and faucets
- Produces hot water for faucets and showers via solar thermal panels
- Modulates lighting through a daylight harvesting system, which adjusts light brightness according to the level of ambient sunlight
- Utilizes “dual flush” toilets, which use less water for liquids and more for solids
- Reduces pollution in part through interior paints, coatings, sealants, and adhesives made with low Volatile Organic Compounds, and through the incorporation of a green cleaning plan
- Maximizes energy conservation through highly insulated roof panels and soy-based spray foam in walls and floors that provides high thermal resistance and minimizes air infiltration, among other approaches.

In the first four months of operation, the PV array has provided approximately 60 percent of the electricity needed by the building. It has one of the first rainwater harvesting systems installed in New Castle County.

The Science and Technology Lodge is a dynamic teaching and conference center that not only delivers cutting-edge science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) programs to Girl Scouts, but

also offers flexible meeting space for public and private organizations. It delivers STEM programming often through creative partnerships with companies such as DuPont, in which female engineers and scientists serve as teachers.

Because the 5,000-square-foot building was designed to be educational, it features signage throughout that describes sustainable design features of the Lodge. Resource consumption and production is carefully tracked through displays that include a water meter board and a computer screen that shows electricity production by the PV array. Building tours were a regular occurrence during construction, and will continue to be so for many years to help teach others about ways in which one can build “green” and sustainable structures.

For more information, contact Liz Farrell, Communications and Advocacy Manager, at lfarrell@cbgsc.org, 302/456-7170 (Direct), 302/544-2688 (Cell Phone), or visit the GSCB website at www.gscb.org.

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