



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 4, 2010

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DELTONA REGIONAL LIBRARY EXPANSION EARNS GREEN CERTIFICATION

The Deltona Regional Library expansion has received LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver Certification. The green areas include the library's general collection area, children's and teenagers' sections, community classrooms and meeting rooms, the Lyonia Environmental Center and Deltona Amphitheater.

The complex opened in October following a 14-month renovation and expansion project that doubled the library's size and added the environmental center and amphitheater.

"This certification verifies that the expansion is environmentally responsible and a healthy place to work," said Volusia County Council Representative Patricia Northey, whose district includes Deltona. "We're very proud of this achievement because LEED certification is the benchmark for design, construction and operation of high-performing green buildings."

The certification system is administered by the U.S. Green Building Council, a Washington D.C.-based, nonprofit coalition of building industry leaders. It's designed to promote design and construction practices that reduce the negative environmental impacts of buildings by increasing energy savings and water efficiency, improving indoor environmental quality, and reducing carbon-dioxide emissions.

The expansion features high-grade insulation and an energy-efficient automated heating and air-conditioning system. Paints, adhesives, carpet, flooring and other products are low in volatile organic compounds to improve indoor air quality.

Other green features include:

- Revolving doors at the entrances help to reduce loss of heating and air-conditioning
- Energy-efficient bulbs and motion sensors that turn off lights when rooms are unoccupied

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- Pervious concrete in the amphitheater to promote natural recharge of the aquifer
- “Florida friendly” landscaping that uses native plants and Bahia grass
- A Votran bus stop at the front door

Since reopening, the building’s energy costs have dropped 22 percent.

In 2008, Volusia County Government launched a Green Volusia program to expand green practices within county operations and educate the public about environmentally responsible practices. Recent initiatives have included purchasing hybrid-electric vehicles, introducing beach recycling, and implementing energy improvements at county facilities.