



# DELAWARE VALLEY GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

## *DeSales University*

# 2011 Lehigh Valley Sustainability Award Winner

DeSales University has undertaken ambitious efforts to be a leader in developing and implementing sustainable practices. The University recognizes the need to be both practical and visible in representing these values within their community.

### SITE

- Created over 3000 SF of new landscaping using native plantings on campus.
- Planted in excess of 150 new trees over the past 3 years.
- Allowed natural plantings to establish in detention and infiltration basins eliminating the need for mowing.
- Providing grounds crews with more energy efficient vehicles replacing 1-ton pickup trucks with Polaris Rangers.
- Installed over ½ mile of new walkways to facilitate pedestrian access, with plans to add another ¼ mile in 2012.
- Using extra soils from the construction of Donahue Hall, new athletic fields and open space for practice and intramurals were developed, providing open space to encourage healthy lifestyles.
- Installed bike racks at all University buildings to reduce the number of cars driving on campus.

### RETROFIT

- Trexler Library - Full retrofit of the entire building (over 500 fixtures) using the Lutron Graphic Eye System reducing energy consumption by over 50%.
- Dooling Hall - Installed daylight harvesting, smart ballasts, automated window shades and energy efficient lighting in the atrium and surrounding offices. Retrofitting classrooms and offices with occupancy sensors and energy efficient ballasts and lamps.
- Billera Hall - Currently completing engineering and design to retrofit the interior lighting.
- Campus Lighting - Adopted standards for high efficiency LED lighting and implementing a phased retrofit of existing fixtures.

### CONSERVATION

- Reduced overall potable water consumption for five straight years.
- Installed low flow in showerheads, faucets, and toilets in all dormitories.
- Installed energy efficient water coolers with fill stations at strategic spots on campus to discourage use of disposable containers.
- Installing Energy Star rated HVAC units wherever possible.

### PROGRAMS

- Benchmark all University owned facilities at the end of our fiscal year utilizing the USEPA Energy Star data to benchmark electricity, natural gas, and water consumption.
- 90% of all buildings operate on a Building Automation Control System. This allows remote monitoring and correction as well as the identification of proactive repairs to units and systems not operating at proper levels. The program will be 100% by the end of 2012.
- Established a competitive program in the residence halls offering incentives to students for reductions in energy and water usage.
- Introduced single stream recycling across the entire campus in 2011 reducing the amount of waste going into landfills by 20% and costs by over 15%.
- Ongoing evaluation of alternative forms of energy such as solar and wind.
- Participation in the PJM Demand Response program.
- A certified Energy Procurement engineer is on staff to manage campus-wide electric and gas commodity purchasing. Utility bills are evaluated on a monthly basis looking for areas of high consumption and opportunities to reduce consumption.
- Participation in the Hess Peak Load Shedding program will begin this year.

### CONSTRUCTION

- When renovating the current McShea Student Center, the project team made a conscious decision to use as many products that can be repurposed around campus when the facility is replaced. Estimates show that 75% of the renovation costs were spent on items that will be able to be repurposed.
- Two new building projects, one in design and the other under construction, are registered with the USGBC and targeting Silver certification.



Honoring people & organizations transforming the Lehigh Valley