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Discovery Center Gets the Gold!


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The Springfield Discovery Center has recently been recognized with LEED Gold Certification. The LEED or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, rating system was designed by the US Green Building Council to encourage and facilitate the development of more sustainable buildings. The certification process is broken up into five environmental categories as defined by LEED including: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials & Resources and Indoor Environmental Quality. The Discovery Center was able to get additional points by adding the Innovation & Design process which has Green Building Education and Green Housekeeping. The Discovery Center project was evaluated according to this system and was certified GOLD.

The Discovery Center broke ground in September, 2004 and opened the expansion project with exhibits and the sustainable building in September 2006. This \$6.0 million dollar project was funded by regional/local individuals and companies. \$1.2 million is still left to raise the building and exhibits. Naming opportunities are available.

The Discovery Center is proud to be the first LEED certified gold building in the southwest Missouri Region. Without the collaboration of local individuals, organizations and companies the Discovery Center could not continue to grow and be the premier education resource for schools and families in the region.

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