

## Desert Living Center Exhibit Overview

<b>Sustainability Gallery</b>	Visitors enter what seems to be a typical Las Vegas neighborhood complete with a furnished home, park, and even a garbage truck making its rounds. Upon closer inspection, the guest discovers this is not a typical community. This gallery consists of three thematic areas: "Nothing Disappears", "Do More With Less", and "Explore the Alternatives". Visitors will experience an educational, entertaining, and hands-on journey as they explore creative solutions to environmental challenges.
<b>Water Kinetic Sculpture</b>	A simulated model visually and artistically depicts water consumption in the Las Vegas Valley. Lake Mead, Hoover Dam, the Las Vegas Strip, nature and Las Vegas neighborhoods are represented.
<b>Nothing Disappears</b>	Recycling bins and garbage cans are used to interpret and illustrate the facts about landfills, waste, and recycling. A large billboard displays a positive message stating that although nothing disappears, our waste can be managed in a sustainable, environmentally friendly way.
<b>Tower of Trash</b>	A giant pile of trash represents the amount of trash a family of four that does not recycle can produce in one month. A constantly changing LED readout displays the actual amount of garbage in the Las Vegas landfills in real time.
<b>Smart Shopper: Recycling Kiosks</b>	This interactive game challenges players to make positive choices while shopping for recycled products. Shoppers must make real life choices based on price, manufacturing practices, lifespan, and environmental impact. The results of individual choices are displayed and explained in terms of their effect on the environment and use of resources.
<b>Glass Bottles</b>	Glass bottles fill the appropriate recycling bin and the graphic on the bin explains how glass is recycled and lists the practical uses.
<b>Plastic Bottles</b>	Plastic bottles fill the appropriate recycling bin and the graphic on the bin explains how plastic is recycled and how it is utilized.
<b>Aluminum Cans</b>	Aluminum cans fill the appropriate recycling bin and the graphic on the bin explains how aluminum is recycled and used.
<b>Recycling Bins, Paper or Plastic</b>	A grocery cart is filled with groceries that have been bagged in both paper and plastic bags. The graphic on the cart explains best practices for bagging groceries.
<b>Garbage Truck Theater</b>	A life-size garbage truck made from recycled materials serves as a theater where visitors sit on trash-can chairs and view a film that shows the difference between "trash" and "treasure". Recycling is emphasized as the film explores the uses for and products made from recycled materials.
<b>Compost Crawl</b>	Children are encouraged to crawl through a giant compost heap to explore the composition and benefits of composting. The soft foam sculpted compost pile contains larger-than-life earthworms, banana peels and yard clippings that help kids learn why compost is natural, organic, and nutrient-rich.

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<b>Fertilizers</b>	Lawn tools are used to hold interpretive text that explains the pros and cons of natural compost verses synthetic fertilizer. Samples of synthetic and organic fertilizer are displayed.
<b>Do More with Less</b>	A refurbished wheelbarrow, push mower, garden shovel, leaf rake and broom hold graphic text that explains and interprets sustainable gardening practices.
<b>Smart Shopper: Fertilizer Kiosk</b>	This interactive game challenges players to make positive choices while shopping for garden fertilizers. Shoppers must make real life choices based on price, manufacturing practices, lifespan, and environmental impact. The results of individual choices are displayed and explained in terms of their effect on the environment and use of resources.
<b>Smart Shopper: Irrigation Systems</b>	This interactive game challenges players to make positive choices while shopping for irrigation equipment. Shoppers must make real life choices based on price, manufacturing practices, lifespan, and environmental impact. The results of individual choices are displayed and explained in terms of their effect on the environment and use of resources.
<b>The Secret Life of Water Interactive</b>	In this interactive audiovisual water conservation trivia exhibit, the visitor uses a virtual water hose to “squirt” at the correct answer. Knowledge about water sources, consumers, uses, and conservation is tested.
<b>Entry Vestibule Alternative Materials</b>	A partially deconstructed house becomes a showplace for sustainable ideas and products. Alternative construction materials, finishes, furnishings, appliances, fixtures, and flooring are showcased and interpreted.
<b>Where Does Your Power Come From?</b>	At this interactive audiovisual exhibit, visitors pull a simulated power cord and discover they have pulled themselves into the virtual outlet and are now traveling along the power-lines. Electricity crackles and snaps as they travel past solar, wind, hydroelectric, natural gas, and coal power generators to reveal where Las Vegans receive their electricity.
<b>Flooring Exhibit</b>	This exhibit displays a comparison between synthetic, natural (wool) and polyethylene (made from recycled soda bottles) carpeting and hard floor options such as bamboo, cork, and stone tile. Pros and cons are weighed for features like price, environmental impact, lifespan, and recycle ability, helping visitors to choose sustainable flooring.
<b>Oversized Thermostat</b>	Visitors turn an oversized thermostat as part of an interactive program displaying costs and energy uses of an average-sized home. Visitors are given recommended settings yet can set the thermostat to their desired temperature and, in turn, see how the changes affect seasonal costs.
<b>Bathroom</b>	Visitors learn about different types of toilets, fixtures, showerheads, and water heaters. Options for materials like tile and cabinets are explained and water saving benefits of low-flow fixtures is visually illustrated.

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<b>Washing Machine Area</b>	The eco-friendly washer-dryer combo can do the work of a traditional washer and dryer while saving energy, water and money. The exhibit also displays the most environmentally friendly soaps and detergents.
<b>Kitchen</b>	From bio-composite cabinets to energy efficient task lighting and composting techniques, this exhibit outlines strategies for making a kitchen more sustainable. Alternative sustainable options for materials are explored in pull out “discovery drawers”.
<b>Living Room</b>	Ambient lighting uses 90% less power than traditional lighting. Modular furniture is now being made from recycled paper and hemp. This room highlights many companies who make stylish yet eco-friendly sofas and chairs.
<b>Smart Shopper Light Bulb Kiosk</b>	This interactive game challenges players to make positive choices while shopping for light bulbs. Shoppers must make real life choices based on price, manufacturing practices, lifespan, and environmental impact. The results of individual choices are displayed and explained in terms of their effect on the environment and use of resources.
<b>Pledge Tree</b>	The Pledge Tree is a 14-foot sorghum plywood sculpture with a metal leaf canopy from which visitor pledge cards are displayed.
<b>Food Miles</b>	This exhibit explores food distribution. The soft flooring of this child’s play area is made of recycled rubber tires with benches along picket fencing to allow for adult seating and supervision. The Pledge Tree is in the center of the play area surrounded by a fruit stand, fruit conveyor, and fruit tree. Children move “fruit” (balls) from the tree, onto conveyors and finally into the fruit stand. Children learn the importance and energy saving benefits of locally grown food while they play.
<b>Smart Shopper Shoe Kiosk</b>	This interactive game challenges players to make positive choices while shopping for shoes. Shoppers must make real life choices based on price, manufacturing practices, lifespan, and environmental impact. The results of individual choices are displayed and explained in terms of their effect on the environment and use of resources.
<b>Pledge Kiosk</b>	Visitors generate a pledge card with their photograph and a promise to do something to promote sustainability. Visitors keep one copy to remind them of their pledge and a duplicate copy will be hung from the Pledge Tree to be rediscovered during their next visit.
<b>Explore the Alternatives</b>	Explore practical, affordable options for energy use, transportation and the way we treat our community.
<b>Alternate Transportation - Electric Car</b>	Visitors can learn about high-energy efficient cars and view the exposed engine of a hybrid vehicle with interpretation of how it works.
<b>Alternate Transportation - Airstream Trailer</b>	Graphic panels line the interior of a trailer containing information on alternative transportation energy. Fuels such as hydrogen, bio-diesel, and Compressed natural gas are explained.

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<b>Sun Power Sunray Flower</b>	The petals of a giant sunflower hold photovoltaic panels that can be angled by visitors to catch the maximum amount of sunlight for conversion into energy. An electric meter shows the change in production as the flower is moved.
<b>Windmill Interactive</b>	Visitors are given instructions needed to build their own windmill. The efficiency in converting wind into electricity using different blade designs is compared.
<b>Energy generator</b>	A human powered generator is connected to incandescent, fluorescent, and LED light bulbs. Visitors will learn first hand how much energy is required to light the bulbs.
<b>Patio Place</b>	The outdoor patio is constructed from reclaimed wood and houses the Smart Shopper Patio Place Kiosk.
<b>Smart Shopper Patio Place</b>	An interactive station serves as the ending point of the five Smart Shopper Kiosks. Here visitors can review their "purchases", and find out if they made eco-friendly choices.
<b>Photovoltaic Experiments</b>	In this docent led experience, guests will find a variety of solar devices that demonstrate the benefits, technologies, and uses of this environmentally friendly energy source.