



DESERT LIVING CENTER FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW: The Desert Living Center (DLC) is comprised of five buildings featuring 43 exhibits, classroom and meeting space, and gardens that explore sustainable solutions to current and future environmental issues. The DLC is registered with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) for Platinum certification, the highest LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) level. The structures that comprise the DLC have been designed, constructed and will be operated to achieve or exceed the standards set forth by the LEED program. Exploration of environmentally sound features and practices are the focus of the DLC exhibits and buildings themselves.

LOCATION: Springs Preserve
333 S. Valley View Blvd.
Las Vegas, Nevada

OPENED: June 8, 2007

ARCHITECT: Luchessi Galati Architects, Inc. (Las Vegas, NV)

EXHIBIT DESIGN: Aldrich Pears Associates, Ltd.

BUILDINGS/ (Building 1)

KEY AREAS: • **Welcome Gallery** – Provides a multimedia introduction to the sustainable mission of the DLC via the Inside Out program, an exhibit that runs throughout the buildings, highlighting green structural building features, such as straw bale, rammed earth and cool towers.

(Building 2)

• **The Nature Exchange** – A nationwide educational program that offers a free choice learning environment for young collectors to “trade” their natural found items and learn more about them.

(Building 3)

• **Sustainability Gallery** – A gallery that highlights the country’s current resource usage and offers sustainable alternatives, showing visitors how making big or small changes can greatly affect the environment for the future. Exhibit areas include:

- **"Nothing Disappears,"** exhibits that explore waste reduction and recycling.
- **"Do More with Less,"** exhibits that demonstrate resource use and opportunities for conservation in everyday life.
- **"Explore the Alternatives,"** exhibits that informs visitors of existing resource conservation and preservation technologies. Includes the **Sustainable House**, an exhibit showcasing sustainable building materials and products for homeowners and renters.

- **Resource Library** - A partner library of the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District with over 10,000 books, journals, CDs and DVDs on such topics as archaeology, humanities studies, green building, biology and botany, as well as resource material for non-profit organizations.

- **Design Lab/Technical Training Center** – Includes a wet lab and instruction area to teach visitors about sustainable practices they can utilize at home and to provide instruction on building environmentally friendly products, such as solar arrays and rammed earth walls.

- **Gardens Amphitheater** – A semi-circular outdoor venue accommodating approximately 250 people for classes and lectures.

(Building 4)

- **Temporary Exhibit Building** – Provides exhibit space for traveling green exhibits, local artists and community resource rooms.

- **Patio Gallery** – Located on the upper level, the Patio Gallery is reserved for traveling exhibits and is home to **The Canary Project**, which contains 17 large format photos by artist Susannah Sayler depicting the dangerous results of climate change on our world.

(Building 5)

- **Dialogue Center** – An education facility containing meeting, classroom and event space.

- **Deserts of the World** – Located on the southwest side of the Dialogue Center, the Deserts of the World is an outdoor garden exhibit featuring plant life from arid regions around the country.

**SUSTAINABLE
DESIGN
FEATURES:**

- Fenestration design maximizes natural daylight use
- Passive cooling and renewable heating of buildings
- Bio-filtration ponds reclaim on-site wastewater
- Electrical energy created by a photovoltaic array

**SUSTAINABLE
PRODUCTS
UTILIZED:**

- Straw bale walls
- Carpet made from recycled soda pop bottles
- Certified sustainable lumber
- Rammed earth walls
- Computer controlled building operations systems
- “Low VOC” paints, furniture, fabrics and wood composites

**MEDIA
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