

1-1-2009

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Recommended Citation

Macalester College Sustainability Office, "Markim Hall: a model of sustainability" (2009). *Sustainability Documents*. Paper 8.
<http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/susdocs/8>

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Markim Hall: a model of sustainability



Markim Hall is designed to be Macalester's first LEED-platinum building and one of the first campus buildings in the nation to earn the U.S. Green Building Council's highest level certification for energy efficiency and environmental design. The building houses Macalester's Institute for Global Citizenship. Its design and construction support the IGC's mission and reflect the college's broad and deep commitment to sustainable practices and responsible citizenship.

Sustainability features of Markim Hall



Minimal energy use

- The building will use 75 percent less energy than a typical campus building in Minnesota's climate.
- Insulation is strong and windows are triple-glazed.
- The floor plan maximizes daylight.
- Sensors turn off lights when daylight is sufficient and when rooms are unoccupied.
- A heat recovery wheel recovers some of the energy stored in the exhaust air and pre-conditions incoming fresh air.



Sustainable and local products

- Floor tiles, glass mosaic tiles, and windowsills are all made from recycled materials.
- Wood used in windows and paneling is sustainably harvested, certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.
- Exterior stone was quarried in Wisconsin, saving energy in transporting the stone to campus.
- Paints, carpets, adhesives, sealants, wood products, and furniture have low or no volatile organic compounds (VOCs).



Low water use

- Low-flow faucets and dual-flush toilets reduce water use by 45 percent.
- Water fountains include a spigot for filling and refilling water bottles.
- Landscaping is suited to the climate and requires little watering.
- Permeable walkways allow rainwater to seep into the ground, and rainwater from the roof is directed into underground perforated pipes, recharging groundwater and minimizing demand on storm drains.



Public education and outreach

- Markim Hall will be open to community groups as a model of sustainable design.
- An animated interactive display of the building's systems and real-time data about energy and water use will be available to all visitors.
- Real-time data and other information will be shared at <http://igc.macalester.greentouchscreen.com/>

Markim Hall: Home of Institute for Global Citizenship

Markim Hall houses Macalester College's Institute for Global Citizenship, created to strengthen ways by which the college prepares students for engagement and leadership at local, national, and international levels. The institute includes Macalester's Civic Engagement Center, International Center, Internship Office, and related activities.

Students will frequent the facility to arrange for study abroad and community-based learning opportunities and to participate in other programs. Markim Hall also provides spaces for the Macalester community to discuss important normative issues and collaborate on new activities that advance the college's commitment to global citizenship.

Campus-wide sustainability initiatives

- Eco-friendly cleaning products tested for Markim Hall are being introduced across campus.
- No new parking spaces were created for Markim Hall. Instead, the college is offering incentives to reduce automobile emissions, such as subsidized bus passes and preferred parking for carpools and low-emitting cars.
- At EcoHouse, student residents demonstrate earth-friendly living.
- Fluorescent lightbulbs are being replaced with lower-energy bulbs throughout campus.
- Bon Appetit, the college's food service, is a leader in obtaining food from sustainable sources and minimizing waste.
- Student-led groups have planted green roofs on two campus buildings to reduce heating and cooling loads and filter pollutants from the air.
- With a Zero Waste Policy, Macalester is working to improve collection and sorting of materials for recycling and reuse.
- Macalester has committed to reduce its net greenhouse gas emissions to zero, under the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment.

