



Beaver Water District Receives LEED® Gold

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) has awarded Beaver Water District's Administration Center with a designation of LEED® Gold. LEED is a certification established by the USGBC and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI).

LEED, an acronym for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. The Administration Center, located at 301 N. Primrose Road in Lowell, is open to the public from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Beaver Water District achieved LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water, and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and

water, LEED certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

"We are extremely pleased with the outcome of our efforts to build in a responsible manner that is sensitive to the environment and our use of natural resources," said David Short of Bentonville, President of the District's Board of Directors. "The District and our customers in Northwest Arkansas will reap the benefits of efforts of the project team for years to come."

The District built the new center to increase office space and provide public access without compromising treatment plant security, according to Alan D. Fortenberry P.E., CEO of the District.

Continued on page 2



*Beaver Water District's new Administration Center photographed at dusk.
(Photo courtesy of Jim Ulmer of McGoodwin, Williams & Yates.)*

LEED Gold continued from page 1

"Our design focused on maximum energy savings with an eye to the future. The challenge was to build the center using resources to their greatest benefit while keeping waste to a bare minimum," Fortenberry said.

To tackle this goal, a series of meetings — referred to as design charrettes — were held. These meetings involved District staff, members of the architectural design team led by McGoodwin Williams & Yates of Fayetteville, and LEED consultants Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects of Little Rock.

Functionality is a key component of every aspect of the Administration Center, from the infiltration basins, which help clean and filter stormwater runoff from parking lots, to the reuse of waste process water in the water feature, which resembles a rippling creek that might be found in nature in the Ozarks. The water feature creates an attractive setting for the front entry to the center.

The Administration Center is situated on a 10-acre site with only a 14,000-square-foot building footprint, which maximizes open space. At night, the site lighting chosen for the facility reduces light pollution.

Long north/south walls take advantage of daylight, which results in lower lighting costs for the building. Motion sensors also are employed throughout the building in lighting controls. Water efficient landscape design incorporates native plantings that are more likely to thrive in this climate in both wet and dry conditions. Native plants also are good at "uptake" when it comes to pollutants. Geothermal heating and cooling uses 37, 300-foot deep wells on site to provide efficient heating and cooling that also results in low energy use.

Regional materials manufactured within a 500-mile radius were used in the building's construction, thus reducing fuel consumption for freight. Many of the

components of the center -- from toilet partitions, cabinets and countertops, to concrete, carpet, and fabrics -- contain significant recycled content. Pervious pavement allows rain water and runoff to seep back into the ground. The District anticipates a savings of 180,000 gallons per year for drip irrigation with use of

"Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, USGBC. "The Beaver Water District's project efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate, positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit future generations to come."

recycle water. In addition, a 50% reduction of potable water use is anticipated with low flush toilets, automatic faucets, and waterless urinals.

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to more than 250,000 people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to serve our customers in the Benton and Washington County area by providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all federal and state regulatory requirements in such quantities as meets their demands and is economically priced consistent with our quality standards. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.

The Value of Water - Part 1

"You never miss the water till the well has run dry." Irish Proverb

While 21st century Americans enjoy many modern conveniences that have enhanced our lifestyle, there is no doubt that the availability of safe, clean potable water inside our homes has had a significant impact on our everyday lives. This water is delivered to our houses in the quantities we desire and at an adequate pressure to meet our needs. Water is available at our taps when we wake up to shower in the mornings, as we fix dinner in the evening, and even in the middle of the night when we are awakened to get a child a glass of water. Our homes are equipped with automatic clothes and dish washers, ice makers in our refrigerators, and multiple bathrooms. Many newer homes are constructed with automatic lawn sprinkling systems. All of these "modern conveniences" are designed to save time which results in people in the United States having significantly more leisure time than the rest of the world. A few of the readers of this article will remember drawing water from a well for washing clothes or dishes, or for taking a bath. Only a precious few gallons of water a day were used for these routine activities. Even today in many parts of the world, people in developing countries (usually women and children) spend hours each day carrying water several miles from the closest water supply source to their homes. This labor intensive endeavor has the unintended consequences of limiting these individuals' time for other more productive endeavors, including obtaining even minimal education. Unfortunately, this perpetuates the cycle of poverty in many of these countries.

As we travel across these United States whether for business or pleasure, we do so without concern about the

water we drink. This is due to the development of federal standards created under the Safe Drinking Water Act, first passed in 1974. These standards provide the benchmark for assessing the quality of drinking water anywhere in the nation, and they are based almost solely

This is the first article in a three-part series on the "The Value of Water." In addition, we've included with this mailing of The Source a pamphlet entitled "The Value of H₂O," which contains numerous facts about water and its relative cost in our society today. The issue of the cost of water will be highlighted in the final article in this series. The focus of this article is the value of water with respect to our lifestyle.

on the issues of protecting the public's health. These regulations include the Total Coliform Rule (a protection against bacteria in the water), the Lead and Copper Rule (a protection related to the impact of plumbing materials on the water), the Disinfectant/Disinfection By-Product Rule (a protection against compounds created by disinfectants in the water), and a whole host of other regulations that limit the levels of chemicals (both naturally occurring and man-made)

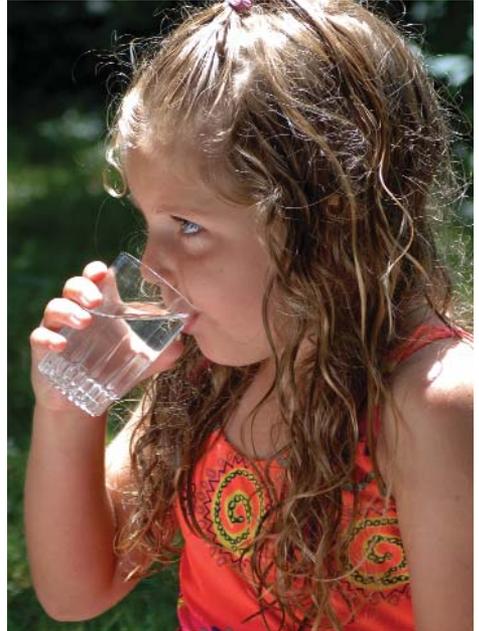
Continued on page 4

The Value of Water continued from page 3

in your water supply. Beaver Water District conducts multiple tests each day on the water as it moves through the treatment process to ensure that it meets all of these regulations and is safe for our customers to drink.

All of us know how important water is for our health. We are encouraged by our doctors to drink more water each day. The human body can only survive a few days without water. Natural disasters throughout the world (such as the earthquake in Haiti) highlight the critical nature of a clean water supply with respect to public health. Most Americans never think of waterborne diseases such as typhoid or cholera. That's largely because we have had no major outbreaks of those diseases in a hundred years. This is due to the availability of drinking water that has been adequately disinfected. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control lists control of infectious diseases resulting from clean water and improved sanitation one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. (Source: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00056796.htm>.)

Many of us are unaware that every day throughout the world nearly 6,000 people (most of them children) die from waterborne disease. Having an adequate supply of safe water is literally a



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life and death matter. There's no question that access to a safe supply of water is necessary for human life and improves the overall quality of life for all of us. In Part 2 of this series, which will appear in the Summer 2010 edition of this newsletter, we will examine the economic impacts of a safe and adequate water supply.

HOW TO REACH US

Amy Wilson, Director of Public Affairs

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Beaver Lake: We Drink It Every Day!

Did you know that you can make a difference in the water quality of Beaver Lake? It's true. That's because when it rains, stormwater runoff can pick up dirt, chemicals and other pollutants. Then it enters the storm drain and is discharged untreated into the lake. So how can you help reduce stormwater runoff and protect the water in Beaver Lake?

The 30-second videos deal with how the lake came to be built; the definition of watershed and the primary watersheds in Northwest Arkansas; the types of everyday pollution that can negatively impact the lake and what individuals can do to stop it; and the role that clean, potable water has in protecting public health and safeguarding the economic future of our area.

"Beaver Lake. We drink it every day." That's the core message of Beaver Water District's latest public outreach campaign, which is centered around a series of educational video messages focusing on Northwest Arkansas.

"This is a call to action," said Alan D. Fortenberry P.E., CEO of the District. "Beaver Lake is our drinking water. Clean water is vital for public health. These videos address concepts such as how the lake came to be built and how

runoff from storms can harm the lake. The idea is that the more people know, the more they will care and do something about it."

At the end of each video, viewers are asked to "Do your part to protect Beaver Lake." This is followed by information about accessing Beaver Water District's website, where visitors will find links to tips about how to keep polluted storm water out of Beaver Lake.

"We're excited about this campaign," said Amy Wilson, Director of Public Affairs for the District. "We get calls every week from people wanting to know what they can do. They have a lot of questions. They want to understand water issues. What better way to bridge the gap than to localize the message and apply it to Beaver Lake and Northwest Arkansas. It's a formula for success."

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The videos have been broadcasting since Dec. 25 on KNWA-TV and Fox24, Jones Television, Community Access Television, and the city of Fayetteville's government access channel. In addition, one of the videos recently began airing in local movie theatres throughout Northwest Arkansas.

Continued on page 6

We Drink it Every Day continued from page 5



Beaver Water District



Northwest Arkansas'
Drinking water
Source



Beaver Lake.
If you live in Northwest Arkansas,
you drink it every day.

Consume. Conserve. Connect.

Connecting Today's Actions With Tomorrow's Planet

Beaver Water District takes water from the lake, cleans and disinfects it, and makes it safe for you to drink, from drinking water taps in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, and Bentonville and surrounding towns and communities.

Did you know that you can make a difference in the water quality of Beaver Lake? It's true. That's because when it rains, stormwater runoff can pick up dirt, chemicals and other pollutants. Then it enters the storm drain and is discharged untreated into the lake. So how can you help reduce stormwater runoff and protect the water in Beaver Lake?

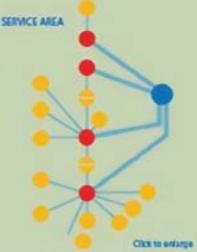
Click on the four short videos below to find out. View videos in Quicktime.
[Download free Quicktime.](#)



**CONSUME
CONSERVE
CONNECT**



In the 1950s, visionary leaders in Northwest Arkansas saw the need for a secure water supply.



SERVICE AREA

CLICK TO ENLARGE

HOME

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

PUBLIC INFORMATION

LINKS

CALENDAR

EDUCATION

Beaver Water District's Consume Conserve Connect web page features links to the four videos that are airing on area television stations and in local theatres.

The videos may be viewed anytime by visiting www.bwdh2o.org and clicking on the water faucet logo with the message Consume, Conserve, Connect.

Beaver Water District's public outreach is one of many ways that the District educates its customers about how to keep our water resources healthy now and for future generations.

The District supplies drinking water to more than 250,000 people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas.

These cities resell the water to surrounding towns and communities.

Beaver Water District's mission is to serve our customers in the Benton and Washington County area by providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all federal and state regulatory requirements in such quantities as meets their demands and is economically priced consistent with our quality standards. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.

District Leverages Resources

When it comes to getting the biggest bang for the buck, partnerships are one of the most effective ways to stretch your resources and dollars. Since its founding, Beaver Water District has done just that, by partnering with entities and institutions whose missions in some way line up with the District's mission: To serve our customers in the Benton and Washington County area by providing high quality drinking water that meets or exceeds all federal and state regulatory requirements in such quantities as meets their demands and is economically priced consistent with our quality standards.

In fact, the District wouldn't exist, nor would Beaver Lake, if government and business leaders in Northwest Arkansas had not come together to make abundant drinking water a reality for the region. Just imagine, Northwest Arkansas without Beaver Lake! Fortunately, we don't have to.

However, managing this great natural resource requires continuous monitoring of the water in the numerous tributaries that drain into Beaver Lake, reporting and collecting scientific data concerning the monitoring, and educating residents about the laws and regulations, Beaver Lake, drinking water, and the importance



A volunteer lowers a Secchi disk to get a clarity reading during the 2009 Secchi Day event on Beaver Lake.

of a clean water source not only for the health of residents but also for the economic well-being of our region.

Beaver Water District thanks its partners — many listed below — for helping us meet our mission and safeguard the lake. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.

| PARTNER | PROJECT |
|---|--|
| Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) | Water Resources Planning, Management & Regulation |
| Arkansas Department of Health | Source Water Assessment, Source Water Protection & Drinking Water Regulation |
| Arkansas Forestry Commission | Rain Gardens & other Educational Demonstrations |
| Arkansas Natural Resources Commission | Water Resources Planning & Management |
| Arkansas Nonpoint Source Task Force | Develop & Review Nonpoint Source Pollution Program within Arkansas |
| Arkansas Watershed Advisory Group | Information Sharing, Meetings & Training, Biennial Water Conference |
| Arkansas Watershed Coalition | Provides Advice on Watershed Issues |
| Arkansas Water Resources Center | Water Quality Research, Outreach, Education & Beaver Lake Watershed Report |

Continued on page 8

District Leverages Resources continued from page 7

| PARTNER | PROJECT |
|--|--|
| Association for Beaver Lake Environment | Lake Smart Program; Outreach & Education |
| Audubon Arkansas | Watershed Education & Outreach Programs |
| Beaver Lake Scientific Work Group | Technical Advisor to ADEQ |
| Center For Advanced Spatial Technologies | Provides Remotely Sensed Data & Spatial Data Sets |
| City of Fayetteville | Nutrient Reduction Program |
| Illinois River Watershed Partnership | Outreach & Education |
| Madison County Recycling Center | Outreach & Education |
| Multi-Basin Watershed Council | Cooperative Information, Education Programs & Coordination |
| Nature Conservancy | Outreach, Education, Ecological Conservation Efforts |
| Northwest Arkansas Council | Development of Stakeholder-Driven Beaver Lake Watershed Plan & Organization to Preserve Beaver Lake |
| Northwest Arkansas Regional Planning Commission | Data Acquisition (Aerial Photographs) & Planning Advice |
| Ozark Natural Science Center | Environmental Education Efforts |
| Ozarks Water Watch | Bi-State Watershed Partnership |
| Public Schools in Northwest Arkansas | K-12 Drinking Water & Watershed Education meeting Arkansas Education Standards (visit www.bwdh2o.org for more information) |
| University of Arkansas Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering | Research on Water Quality & Watershed Modeling, Development of Watershed Decision Support System |
| University of Arkansas Department of Civil Engineering | Stormwater Best Management Practices, Water Treatment Research/Education |
| University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service | Water Quality Management, Demonstration & Education Outreach |
| University of Arkansas Dale Bumpers College of Agriculture and Life Sciences | Research on Water Quality & Watershed Planning & Management |
| University of Arkansas Department of Geosciences | Research on Water Quality & Watershed Planning & Management |
| U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | Reservoir Operations, Secchi Day on Beaver Lake |
| USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service | Nonpoint Source Pollution Planning & Management & Best Management Practice Development & Implementation |
| U.S. Geological Survey | Secchi Day on Beaver Lake, Stream Gaging, Water Quality Monitoring & Modeling & Assessment |
| Washington County Environmental Affairs & Recycling | Outreach & Education |
| War Eagle Day Appreciation Committee | War Eagle Watershed Outreach & Education |
| Watershed Conservation Resource Center | West Fork-White River Streambank Assessment, Restoration, Education |
| West Fork Watershed Alliance | Education, Outreach, Stream Cleanup & Watershed Kiosk |
| Withrow Springs State Park | War Eagle Watershed Outreach & Education |