

About Lake Ontario Hall

Dedicated in September 2005, the 53,430 square foot Lake Ontario Hall is home to eight academic departments and programs and includes faculty offices, student study areas, and specialized classrooms.

Lake Ontario Hall is also home to more than 150 pieces of art inspired by and honoring Grand Valley's 45 years of continuous commitment to liberal arts education. Its dedication included the unveiling of Professor Ed Wong-Ligda's painting "Levels of Education" and the performance of "Spirit of the Place," a poetry and musical collaboration by Professors Patricia Clark, Ph.D. and Kurt Ellenberger, D.M.A.



As an institution of higher learning and leadership, as well as a public university supported by tax dollars, Grand Valley State University has a responsibility to practice sustainable development. One way we accomplish this is by building for LEED certification when undertaking new construction or major renovation projects. By doing so, we help assure the balance of the "triple bottom line" factors — people, places, and prosperity — which characterize sustainable development, while modeling behavior needed from all businesses, institutions, and individuals. Sustainability also is an important part of Grand Valley's curriculum and campus culture.

For more information about all of Grand Valley's LEED buildings and its sustainability initiative, visit www.gvsu.edu/sustainability.

Sustainability Initiative

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LEED Silver Certified

Lake Ontario Hall



Sustainability at Grand Valley State University



Visitors to Lake Ontario Hall, located on Grand Valley State University's Allendale campus, are sure to notice its most stunning features: striking architecture, ideal learning spaces, picturesque views, and an abundance of natural lighting.

What may be harder to comprehend is what is missing: glass that insulates poorly, and wasteful plumbing, manual light switches that may not get turned off, pollutant-containing cleaning compounds, chlorofluorocarbon-based air conditioning, and unpleasant odors in the air. Nor will they find waste materials produced during construction littering the site or clogging landfills.

Why? Because Lake Ontario Hall is an important part of Grand Valley's commitment to sustainable progress. It was the second Grand Valley building constructed to meet or exceed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, and it is a showcase for sustainable building strategies, including site development, water savings, energy efficiency, material selections, and indoor environmental quality. As a result, the U.S. Green Building Council has awarded Lake Ontario Hall with a LEED Silver rating.



Features of Lake Ontario Hall's LEED Certified Design

Special attention to air monitoring and purification, natural lighting, and thermal comfort promotes improved productivity and health benefits.

Site Development

- Built on part of a former parking lot, saving green space
- Located near a bus stop, giving students, faculty, and staff alternatives to driving
- Special construction and landscaping, which help to eliminate storm water runoff that would otherwise create erosion on nearby natural ravines

Water Savings

- Low-flow plumbing fixtures and waterless urinals help reduce water usage by 35%

Indoor Environmental Quality

- Low-VOC materials are used in adhesives, paints, carpets, and furniture

- Carbon dioxide monitoring coupled with a computer programmed HVAC system helps assure healthy air in this non-smoking facility
- Indoor air quality management — even during construction

Recycling/Construction Waste Management

- Interior and exterior lighting was chosen specifically to reduce light pollution
- Continual recycling of all paper, plastic, glass, metal, and cardboard is part of a comprehensive university program
- "Green" housekeeping program is part of a campus-wide initiative
- 80% of construction waste materials were recycled

Energy Efficiency

- Computer programmed lighting uses motion and heat sensors to eliminate unnecessary energy usage
- Heat-reflective roof saves heating energy in the winter and cooling energy in the summer
- Daylight harvesting energy efficient windows with built-in blinds
- A 30% increase in energy performance was achieved

Material Selections

- Some of the building construction materials used were low-VOC paints, adhesives, carpets and furnishings, some certified wood, and ENERGY STAR® rated roofing products

