



THE PEGGY NOTEBAERT
NATURE MUSEUM

The Museum of the Chicago Academy of Sciences

GREEN FACT SHEET

- In May 2003, the Green Roofs for Healthy Cities and the City of Chicago presented the Chicago Academy of Sciences' Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum with a **Green Roof Award for Excellence** for its Roof Demonstration Garden.
- In September 2003, the Museum embarked on a **\$1.3 million greening project** for public education which transformed the building into a living, breathing model of how to utilize rooftop gardens to improve water quality and storm water management.
- The greening project, added 15,000 square feet of additional gardens to the Museum's roof, which coverage now totals **17,000 square feet**.
- The Museum received the **Green Days/Green Pays Award** from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in recognition of its commitment to Improve Air Quality in 2005, 2006 & 2007.
- In Fall 2007, the **Eco-Paver Plaza** was built with funding from the Illinois EPA as a demonstration of the use of permeable pavers for the reduction in non-point pollution runoff. The brick-like pavers rest on several layers of gravel that act as filters for the pollutants.
- The Museum houses **Lincoln Park's** only **Recycling Drop-Off Center**, participates in Chicago's annual **Turn Green into Blue** program, which recycles Christmas trees into mulch, houses a dry-cell battery collection tube and crayon recycling.
- The Museum's voluntary employee-led **Green Team** encourages staff to carry out the Museum's mission by sponsoring and supporting green policies, initiatives, and events including annual participation in Chicago's Bike to Work Week Challenge.
- The Museum reports to the **Clean Air Counts Initiative**, which calculates the amount of air pollution being produced and the WasteWise Initiative, which monitors waste reduction efforts.
- The Museum purchases products that are made of recycled content, improve indoor air quality, and are locally produced. Printing vendors use soy-based ink, paper towels and tissue are all 100% recycled, and only low VOC paints are used within the Museum.
- The Museum café sells local and organic foods. The utensils, straws and napkins are all compostable.
- In fiscal year 2007, the Museum recycled **37,000 pounds of paper**.