

Conservatory News

credit: Alexander Denmark



One of the World's Greenest Buildings is Underway at Phipps

Phipps' Center for Sustainable Landscapes (CSL)—a dynamic education, research and administrative complex slated to open in spring 2012—will be one of the greenest buildings in the world, generating all of its own energy, and capturing, treating and reusing all water on site. Our construction site is currently evolving by the day with the installation and implementation of state-of-the-art and sustainable technologies, including such systems as solar photovoltaics and geothermal wells.

Already live, the photovoltaic solar array at the CSL site is a renewable energy system that generates power from the sun, contributing to our net-zero approach of offsetting 100 percent of the facility's annual energy consumption. This system is expected to produce 134,000 kWh per year, resulting in a savings of \$19,626 in annual energy costs, and it is the largest non-commercial installation in the region.

The ground-source geothermal system, which consists of 14 wells installed 500 feet under the ground, will be used to generate heating and cooling. Typically capturing about 70 percent of their heating and cooling energy from the ground's consistent 57 degree temperature, these wells will work in conjunction with a rooftop geothermal air handling unit to regulate building conditions in any season.

For links to additional CSL facts, site photos, construction updates, and more, please visit PhippsCSL.org.

Let's Move Pittsburgh Symposium a Great Success

White House Assistant Chef and Senior Policy Advisor for Healthy Food Initiatives Sam Kass attends inaugural symposium for regional initiative to promote healthy lifestyles for local youth.

Let's Move Pittsburgh—a coalition of southwestern Pa. organizations, including Phipps, committed to making our region among the healthiest in the nation for children to live, learn and grow—recently gathered together at the Conservatory with key policymakers, public and private funders, service providers, and civic leaders to discuss best practices for and barriers to creating change. As part of this exciting meeting of leaders from the healthcare, early childhood education, out of school/community programs, and the food, beverage and restaurant fields, White House Assistant Chef and Senior Policy Advisor for Healthy Food Initiatives Sam Kass paid us a visit, delivering a keynote address to attendees.

Inspired by First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! campaign to curb childhood obesity through raised awareness about the benefits of healthy foods, decreased screen time and increased physical activity for children, Let's Move Pittsburgh aims to put solutions to this national problem into action here at home with calls to action that will be answered and implemented by community leaders for years to come. To learn more, get involved and access helpful resources, please visit letsmovepittsburgh.org today!

Healthy Foods & Green Innovation at Café Phipps

As one of America's greenest public gardens and a leading participant in the White House Let's Move! Museums and Gardens campaign to improve the health of our nation's youth, Phipps is committed to providing fresh, healthy food that's good for you and the environment. From the offerings on our café menu to the dishes we serve them on, we aim to carry out our mission in everything we do. Visit our newly-updated Café Phipps webpage at phipps.conservatory.org/visit-hipps/cafe-hipps.aspx for a live Twitter feed of daily specials, menus and much more!

Give the Gift of Phipps: A gift membership to Phipps includes free admission to the Conservatory for one year, discounts on education classes and gift shop items, invitations to members-only events, and more. Please visit phipps.conservatory.org and select the "Become a Member" link, or call us at 412/622-6914 for information.