



## WILMETTE PUBLIC LIBRARY - GETTING GREEN

*The library will work toward developing a green building and grounds that will serve as a model for the community*

**from the Wilmette Public Library 2006 Long Range Plan**

### **We Select Green Companies and Green Building Options**

we choose environmentally sustainable options when possible for all major building projects  
we used permeable pavers to replace an asphalt parking surface to reduce storm water runoff  
we used glass with a heat reflective coating to repair the main skylight  
we hired LEED-certified architects to advise us on recent renovations and facility updates

### **We Use Green Products and Methods**

#### ***to conserve materials and to promote reuse***

we recycle about 1,000 pounds of paper, cardboard, metals, glass, aluminum, and plastics per week  
we recycle all fluorescent lamps which includes all of the glass, metal ends, inert gasses and powders in the lamps  
we recycle all print cartridges  
we send out-of-service computer hardware to companies that repurpose or, if necessary, recycle the computer components  
we give withdrawn books to the Friends of the Wilmette Library or to *Better World Books* to sell or donate  
we make scratch paper out of used paper, reuse binders, folders, envelopes, and double side printed material

#### ***to light the building***

we are updating older fluorescent lighting to more energy efficient fixtures  
we are using LED light fixtures where appropriate

#### ***to heat and cool the building***

we use a digital control heating and air conditioning system which uses outside air for cooling, reduces the temperature of hot water needed for heating, and allows for variable heating/cooling controls for weekdays, weekends, and holidays  
we use white roofing materials whenever a section of the roof is replaced to deflect heat and promote cooling inside the building

#### ***to clean the building***

we stipulate that our cleaning service use green products whenever possible  
we use vinegar and water for daily cleaning, edible cleansers around food areas, and unbleached paper towels in washrooms  
we have converted to the truck-mount extraction method for cleaning carpets which uses biodegradable, non-toxic, non-allergenic cleaning agents, efficiently extracts ground-in material, and is gentle on carpet fibers resulting in longer-lasting carpeting

#### ***to maintain the grounds***

we use completely organic fertilizer/weed/pesticide compounds on all lawn and shrubs  
we mulch the lawn with grass clippings to re-fortify the grass and reduce yard waste  
we mulch shrubs and borders with wood chips to keep the soil cool, reduce evaporation, and lessen watering  
we use a cordless leaf blower  
we use liquid ice melt rather than salt on snow whenever possible  
we provide recycling bins for glass, plastic and paper products both inside and outside the library building

#### ***to furnish the building***

we refurbish or repurpose existing furnishings whenever appropriate  
we purchase furniture made from recycled materials and/or with recyclable components by local companies when possible  
we use low VOC paint products  
we use carpet tile substantially made from recycled content that is recyclable and individually replaceable  
we use recycled or sustainable products to update floor areas or counters and tabletops

### **We Encourage Green Activities**

we expanded our bike space for patrons from 10 to 34 bikes with the purchase of stainless steel bike racks  
we replaced public water fountains with models that encourage refilling water bottles

