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**Sustainability**  
*Monthly Newsletter*  
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 **Washington**  
University in St. Louis  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



**4515 McKinley Receives LEED Gold Certification**



The School of Medicine's new 4515 McKinley Research Building has received LEED Gold certification. Located at the corner of McKinley and Taylor, the new research building is dedicated to interdisciplinary research on some of the most complex problems in human biology. [LEED](#), or Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, is a green building certification program that recognizes best-in-class building strategies and practices. With the certification of 4515 McKinley, Washington University is now home to 22 LEED certified projects, including two Platinum, 10 Gold, 7 Silver, and 3 Certified projects.

Below are some examples of the green design strategies that contributed to the LEED Gold certification for the 4515 McKinley Research Building:

- The building is 36% more energy efficient than a conventional building with a site Energy Use Intensity (EUI) of 128 kBtu/square feet. For reference, many of the laboratory buildings at Washington University have EUIs of well over 200.
- Occupancy sensors were installed to reduce airflow in labs during unoccupied periods.
- Systems were installed to recover energy from the building exhaust. This means heat from outgoing exhaust air can be captured in the winter to reduce the need for heating incoming cold fresh air.
- Return air systems were installed in the office areas to lower energy use.

- A heat recovery chiller was installed to improve the overall efficiency of the cooling system.
- The building landscape was designed to use 50% less irrigation water than a standard site.
- Interior spaces were designed to use 35% less indoor water.
- 95%+ of construction waste was diverted from the landfill.
- Low VOC building materials were used.
- 30%+ of building materials were made from recycled content.
- 20%+ of building materials were locally sourced.
- A green cleaning program is being implemented.
- The building design supports active use by occupants.
- The building site enhances campus density and community connectivity.

## News



### Employee Picnic Achieves Zero Waste

Thousands of employees enjoyed lunch at the WashU School of Medicine employee appreciation picnic, but only a handful of ketchup packets went to the landfill, thanks to the efforts of the planning committee, vendors, and the volunteers who sorted the waste... [More >>](#)



### Energy Efficient -80 Degree Freezers

The Resource Management Department hosted a presentation by a manufacturer of ultra-low temperature lab freezers that highlighted information about it's newer, energy efficient model that has been designed to be environmentally friendly... [More >>](#)



### Solar Powered Trash Compactors

Nearly a year ago, Washington University School of Medicine installed seven Bigbelly waste and recycling units near the McKinley Research Building. During this time, the cloud-connected platform has been gathering data pertaining to the collection efficiency... [More >>](#)



### Cities of the Future

A new study from WashU suggests eight interventions that will help create healthier and more sustainable cities of the future, build to reduce the negative impacts of pollution, climate change, noise and crime. It is one of a three-part series of studies... [More >>](#)



### Staff Spotlight: Roger Davis

Roger joined Washington University School of Medicine as the Assistant Director of General Services in August of this year. Originally from Brooklyn, Roger came to WashU because it was "a progressive step in my career from a management perspective"... [More >>](#)



### France Bans Plastic Cups and Dishes

France has become the first country in the world to ban disposable plastic cups and dishes. Under the new law, all single-use cups, plates, and other dishware sold in the country must be compostable and made at least partly of bio-sourced materials... [More >>](#)





### Food Week: Cooking Demonstration

**Date:** October 27, 11a-1p

**Location:** Hope Plaza, WUSM

As part of the annual Food Week activities, join Bon Appetit for a cooking demonstration at Hope Plaza. There will be a variety of samples of food made from ingredients from the local farmers market... [More >>](#)



### People and Climate Change

**Date:** November 18, 8a-6p

**Location:** WashU, Danforth Campus

Join the Brown School of Social Work for a symposium on the human impacts of climate change, the social responses necessary for effective solutions, and the policy implications of such solutions... [More >>](#)



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