



PRESS RELEASE

FEH DESIGNED MARSHALLTOWN LIBRARY AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS LEED® GOLD GREEN BUILDING CERTIFICATION



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Jacob Sharp for Jacob Sharp Photos

FEH Associates Inc. along with the Marshalltown Public Library announced today that the Marshalltown Public Library has been LEED® Gold certified by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) as verified by the Green Building Certification Institution (GBCI). LEED is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

The new Marshalltown Public Library is a single story facility of approximately 35,700 square feet. The facility includes public meeting room space, a café area, dedicated Children's Collection and program space, Adult Collection space, Reference/Genealogy areas, dedicated study rooms, public service desk and administrative/work areas for the Library staff and volunteers.

The Library has been designed to achieve a high standard for energy efficiency, using materials with high recycled content, rapidly renewable materials such as bamboo and linoleum and low VOC paints and adhesives. Locally produced brick and stone were used on the project. The building even generates some of its own electricity through a rooftop photovoltaic array. The Library has been designed to minimize its impact on the environment by using native plants that do not require watering and by diverting more than 95% of the construction waste from being buried in a landfill. The Marshalltown Public Library is the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certified public library in the state of Iowa and is one of only 13 public libraries in the U.S. to achieve LEED Gold certification.

The Library achieved LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and water, LEED certified building saves money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduces greenhouse gas emissions; and contributes to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

"Buildings are a prime example of how human systems integrate with natural systems," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEP & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. "The Marshalltown Public Library's new facility efficiently uses our natural resources and makes an immediate positive impact on our planet, which will tremendously benefit the future generations."

The City of Marshalltown has enthusiastically embraced sustainable practices in the development of their new Library. It is the hope of Community leaders that the citizens can learn from the strategies employed in the Library and consider how they can model similar strategies in their daily lives. With the City showing leadership in how sustainable design practices can enhance their newest civic building, it is further hoped that business leaders might also consider how they can transform their businesses to become more sustainable and perhaps spur additional development of environmentally sensitive projects in Marshalltown and other cities throughout the State of Iowa.

According to Carole Winkleblack, Library Director, the project has created a lot of interest from other public libraries across the state that have come to tour their new library.

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