

What's New

December 8, 2009

BE&K Building Group Project, Burnham Institute for Medical Research at Lake Nona, LEED® Gold-Certified

The BE&K Building Group announces that the Burnham Institute for Medical Research at Lake Nona in Orlando, Florida, has become LEED®-Gold certified by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). At 175,000 feet, it is the largest private research facility in the state of Florida to achieve the LEED® Gold designation. Burnham is the first of several key anchors at Orlando's 600-acre Lake Nona Science and Technology Park. The BE&K Building Group completed the state-of-the-art facility on schedule in March 2009.



The project team identified multiple vendors that could recycle wood, concrete, metal, cardboard and plastic; however, none of these vendors would accept drywall. In a first-of-its-kind program, our team partnered with a landscaping company and a local sod farmer to develop an innovative solution that included grinding the leftover drywall scraps and adding them into fertilizer for sod farming. Through this program, the team was able to divert more than 100 tons of scrap drywall from landfills. In addition, concrete waste was crushed and used as bases for roads and the wood waster was cut up into mulch. In total, the team diverted 94.41% of the project's construction waste from landfills. Burnham realizes a 25 percent savings on energy costs with glazed windows and a heat-reflecting roof. Lab lighting dims when there is enough daylight, and offices have motion sensitive fixtures that shut off lights automatically when no one is present. Water usage is reduced by using native and drought resistant plants and irrigating with recycled or rainwater. Sustainable wood materials and recycled substances are integrated throughout the building.

About the BE&K Building Group — The BE&K Building Group, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, is a prominent construction services firm with an established track record for serving commercial, healthcare, industrial, and institutional clients throughout the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic and South Central regions. The BE&K Building Group, which has operations in eight locations, is the exclusive commercial construction arm of KBR, a leading U.S. based engineering, construction and services company.

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