



Major Funding Sources

Mr. Mort November was a major contributor to the project. Many foundations also supported the construction, including the George Gund Foundation, the 1525 Foundation, the GAR Foundation, and many more.

November Lodge

Cuyahoga Valley Environmental Education Center
3675 Oak Hill Rd. • Peninsula, Ohio

Construction Type: new Building Size: 6,630 ft²

Completion Date: 1999

Notable Features

Wastewater Treatment



Adjacent to the November Lodge is a constructed wetland designed to treat the wastewater generated by the Environmental Education Center (EEC). Lift stations transport waste from all buildings on the site and pipe it into grinder pumps that reduce materials to a manageable size. The waste is then pumped into two 14,000 ft² lagoons where solid materials settle to the bottom. The lagoons are naturally aerated by the wind and require no man-made energy. After all suspended solids

have settled, the water is pumped into the wetland cells that continue to break down waste. Finally, any water that is released from the system passes through a chlorinator and then a dechlorinator to ensure that all waste has been removed. The facility greatly reduces the amount of energy and water needed to treat sewage, while provided a habitat for many threatened wetland species.



Sustainable Sites

In order to minimize the impact of the project on surrounding wildlife, the November Lodge was constructed on a previously disturbed site. The site also allowed builders to use existing utility and road connections, reducing the need for new construction. Finally, the location allowed an obsolete tennis court to be restored to a natural area. The location of the November Lodge also discourages automobile traffic since it is removed from EEC parking facilities.



Water Efficiency

By utilizing native species in the landscape surrounding the lodge, the need for irrigation is eliminated. These species also require less fertilizer, reducing the chances of water supply contamination. Low flow, motion sensitive restroom fixtures further reduce the lodge's water demands.

Energy & Atmosphere

The landscaping around the November Lodge also contributes to the building's energy efficiency. Evergreen trees planted on the northwest side and deciduous shade trees on the south side shelter the building from the winter wind and the summer sun. The geothermal heating and cooling system's efficiency is maximized by the zoned temperature controls, many ceiling fans, and highly insulated windows. Although energy efficient lighting is installed, its use is minimized due to the abundance of windows and sun tubes that provide natural light. The windows also use the sun to passively heat the building during the



winter. Recently, a fuel cell has been installed to study applications of this cutting edge technology.

Materials & Resources

Both recycled and local materials were used in the construction of the November Lodge. The timbers in its Legacy Room have been recovered from demolished buildings, and the carpeting used throughout the facility has a high recycled material content. Wood and concrete materials were purchased from local manufacturers to minimize transportation. The framing, plywood, and wood trim are all FSC (Forest Stewardship Council)-certified indicating that they were harvested from forests that are sustainably managed. From 40-year shingles to long-life fluorescent bulbs, highly durable materials have been used throughout the facility to reduce the waste generated by maintenance and replacement of aging products. Many structural elements double as finished surfaces to reduce the amount of materials needed to complete the building.



Indoor Environmental Quality

To maintain indoor air quality, low-emitting materials have been used throughout the lodge. Operable windows allow daylight, outdoor views, and fresh air to penetrate the structure. Clerestory windows have been used to allow daylight to enter even interior rooms.

