

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School



Martin Luther King Day of Service, January 19, 2009 Construction Project: Green Playground Structure and Picnic Tables

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School will lead volunteers in the construction of a playground structure using recycled materials, and picnic tables using lumber from sustainable woodlands. Once completed, the playground structure and tables will be donated to Winchester Recreation Center in North Philadelphia. This project is sponsored by *HOPE worldwide*.

Playground Structure

The playground structure was custom-designed by Earthscapes Structures. Earthscapes playgrounds are constructed with recycled plastic lumber made from reclaimed post-consumer plastic products such as milk jugs and other beverage containers, plastic cartons, bags, and other everyday household items. The products are cleaned and transformed into the materials used to shape the plastic lumber posts and boards from which the playground structures are built. The plastic lumber used to build each playground is comprised of nearly 99% recycled post consumer plastics. The average playground structure will utilize recycled plastic containers in the tens of thousands.



Picnic Tables

The picnic tables will be constructed by materials from West Fraser Timber Co. All of the woodlands operations directly managed by West Fraser are certified by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), which is an internationally-recognized sustainable forest management certification program. The SFI 2005-2009 Standard promotes sustainable forest management through nine principles, including: sustainable forestry; responsible practices; reforestation and productive capacity; forest health and productivity; long-term forest and soil productivity; protection of water resources; protection of special sites and biological diversity; legal compliance; and, continual improvement. Information available at: www.sfiprogram.org.

In addition to meeting SFI requirements, West Fraser's woodlands have been certified by the International Organization for Standardization (referred to as ISO) 14001 Environmental Management System Standard. ISO 14001 specifies the actual requirements for an environmental management system, applying to those environmental aspects over which an organization has control and can be expected to have an influence. This standard is applicable to any organization that wishes to: implement, maintain and improve an environmental management system; assure itself of its conformance with its own stated environmental policy; demonstrate conformance; ensure compliance with environmental laws and regulations; seek certification of its environmental management system by an external third party organization; and, make a self-determination of conformance. Information available at: www.iso14000-iso14001-environmental-management.com.