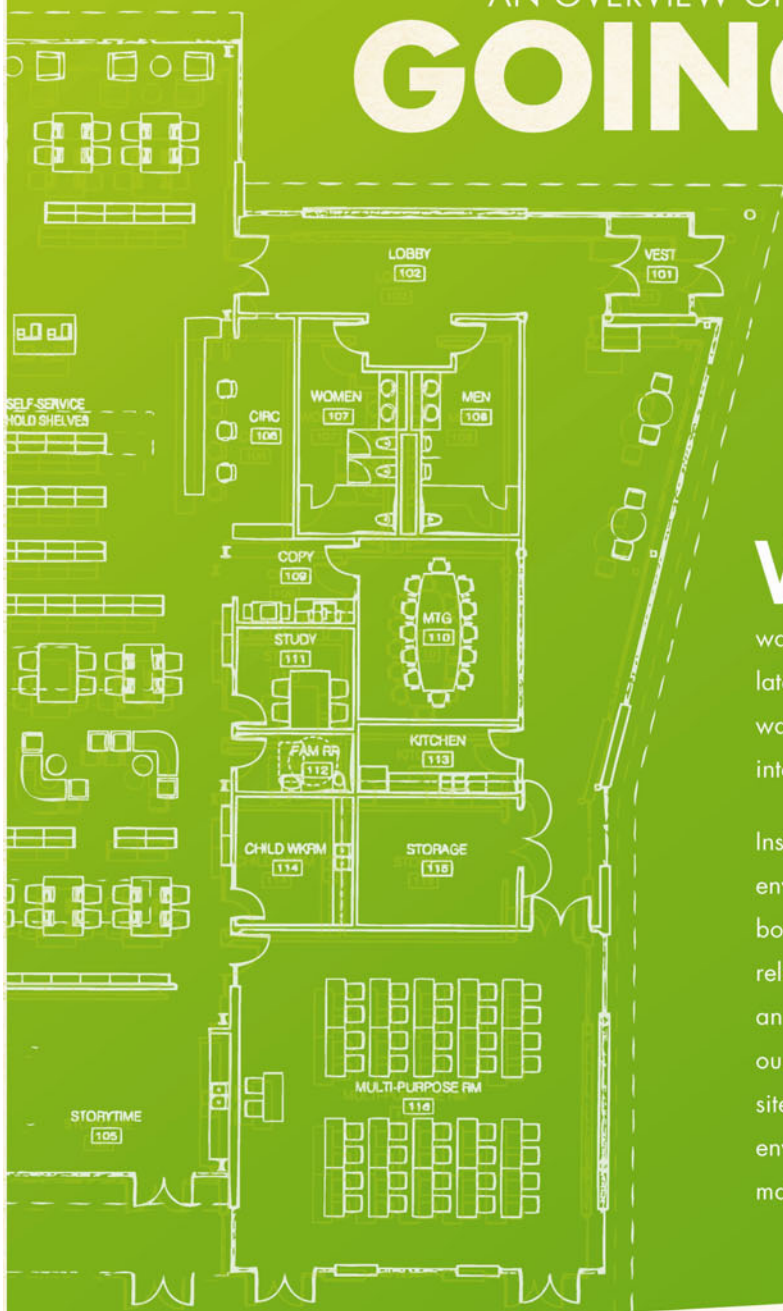




AN OVERVIEW OF THE NEW LIBRARY! AT COLE & USTICK

# GOING GREEN



**Library!**

Welcome to Boise Public Library's newest branch, the Library! at Cole & Ustick. From the beginning, our goal was to create an exciting, full-service library that incorporates the latest in green building techniques and sustainability. We also wanted the library to serve as a welcoming community center, integrating the neighborhood and surrounding businesses.

Inside the library, you'll find a light-filled, energy efficient environment, with lots of computers and internet access, books, movies and music, and spaces for study, meetings and relaxation. And both inside and outside the library, you'll see an abundance of sustainable features, designed to minimize our impact on the environment in five key areas: sustainable site development, energy efficiency, water savings, indoor environmental quality and the use of recycled and renewable materials.



## CONSTRUCTED WITH THE ENVIRONMENT IN MIND

Our new Library! at Cole & Ustick is a facility we can all take pride in. One of our original objectives was to construct a facility that would be both useful to the public and respectful to the environment. We've used modern "green" building techniques, renewable and recycled materials and sustainable practices, resulting in a user-friendly, energy-efficient building. This brochure explains how we put these concepts into practice.

## SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPING

### WELCOMING NATURE & CONSERVING WATER



*The Melissa Blue, Plebejus melissa, is a butterfly native to Idaho and the Intermountain West.*

Visitors are sure to enjoy the variety of native and drought-tolerant plants, trees and shrubs surrounding the library, even while they're inside. Large banks of windows provide a connection between indoor and outdoor spaces throughout the building.

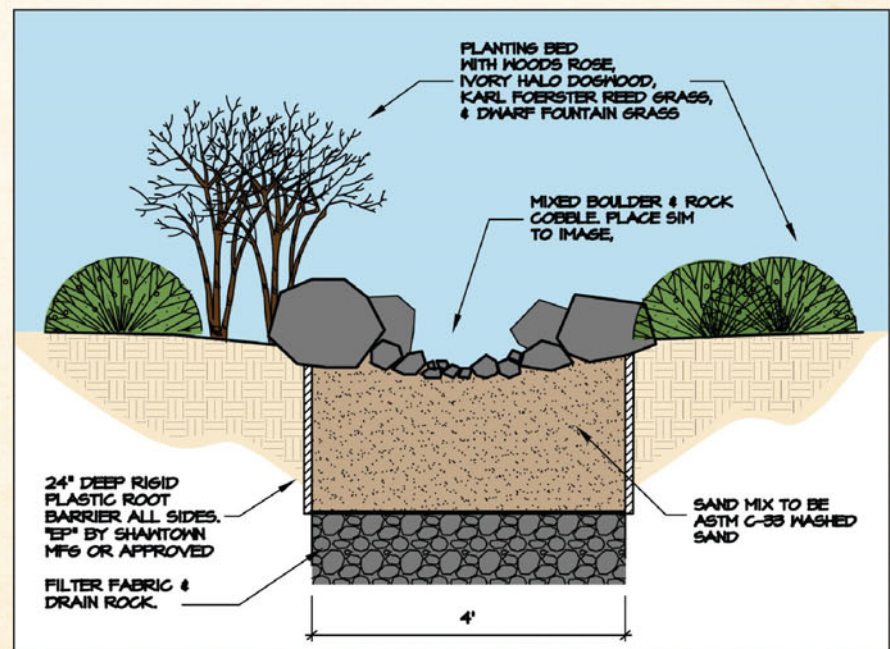
The specific plantings were selected for a couple of reasons. First, the combination of those drought-tolerant plants with landscape zoning and drip irrigation greatly reduces the landscape's dependence on irrigation. By preliminary estimates, we expect to reduce water use by over two-thirds of the amount a landscape of this size would typically require in our area.

Besides being drought tolerant, the native plants that were used provide a bonus: they're also wildlife friendly. These are some of the plants that the birds and butterflies of Idaho use in the wild. If you spend much time in the wilds of Idaho, you may be familiar with some we've used, such as Rocky Mountain juniper, ninebark and Wood's rose.

### PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER

The library's landscaping includes two large bioswales. These large, shallow channels capture most of the rainwater that falls on the site, filtering it through plant roots and sand and letting it soak into the soil and replenish the aquifer instead of running off site.

*Bioswales use vegetative filtration to slow and direct rainwater and runoff from hard surfaces such as roofs, sidewalks and parking areas.*





# SUSTAINABLE LIBRARY BUILDING

## SAVING ENERGY WITH SUNLIGHT AND "SMART" LIGHTS

The library is filled with natural light, thanks to a multitude of high-efficiency windows and multiple skylights, giving a warm, open ambiance to public areas. We've taken advantage of that natural light by using "smart lights." Equipped with daylighting sensors, they'll turn themselves down during the brighter hours of the day.



We use another type of smart light in our meeting rooms and restrooms. These lights are based on motion sensors, and shut themselves off when the rooms are vacant. All of that sunlight, plus smart lighting, add up to long-term energy savings and comfort for library visitors.

## CONSERVING RESOURCES WITH RECYCLED AND RENEWABLE MATERIALS



*Acoustic insulation in interior walls is composed of recycled cotton—primarily old blue jeans.*

You might be surprised by the amount of recycled materials used in the construction of our new facility. The acoustic insulation in many of the walls is blue for a reason; it's made of recycled cotton – primarily old blue jeans. The carpet has high recycled content, the wall tiles in the bathrooms are 100% recycled porcelain, and our checkout countertops are made of recycled concrete and glass. The flooring in the staff workroom is made from recycled rubber products.

Besides using recycled materials, we also made a point to use materials from renewable resources throughout the building. All of the wood you see in the bookshelves, counters and hearth ceiling was certified by the Forest Stewardship Council. Certified wood has been grown in a forest that is managed in an environmentally and socially responsible way, and has been sustainably harvested, processed and distributed.

The cork flooring in the hearth area is also renewable. Cork is actually the bark of the Cork Oak tree; it can be harvested several times over the tree's life without harming the tree.

Responsible use of resources was emphasized even during construction, with construction crews recycling all metal, concrete, sheetrock, wood and plastic waste.

## AIR QUALITY

Of course, air quality is integral to our users' comfort. All of the glues, paints, carpets, and window shades in the building were chosen for their low-emitting characteristics. The high-efficiency heating and cooling system automatically monitors carbon dioxide levels and adjusts fresh-air ventilation.

*High-efficiency windows and skylights maximize daylighting.*





## SPECIAL SPACES



To make this facility truly functional and fun for the users, we've included the following elements in the design:

- Four lovely architectural glass art panels, called "Ustick Dreaming," created by glass artist, Judy Gorsuch Collins
- A hearth area with fireplace and comfortable seating for reading and socializing
- A group study room with seating for four
- Fun, specially designed areas for children and teens
- Quiet areas with comfortable seating
- An audiovisual-equipped, multi-purpose room with seating for up to 85 people, with external access after business hours
- A smaller audiovisual meeting room with seating for 12, also with external access

## PUBLIC SERVICE FEATURES



Our new full-service library also offers:

- 12,600 square feet of public space
- 40,000-50,000 books, CDs, DVDs, and audiobooks
- 50 public computers with 46 Internet-access stations
- Wireless access
- Comfortable chairs and tables
- 50 open hours a week, over 6 open days
- Self-service checkout
- Coffee and other hot beverages
- A copy center
- Reference Services
- And of course, library programs for all ages, including
  - Baby, toddler & preschool storytimes
  - School-age & teen programs
  - Computer classes for adults
  - Book clubs & other special programs

## THANK YOU

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank the people responsible for making the new West Boise Library possible, including the residents of Boise, the Boise Public Library Board of Trustees, Mayor David Bieter, the Boise City Council, architects Fletcher Farr Ayotte, Inc., the construction firm PETRA, Inc., and the Friends of the Boise Public Library.



## Boise Public Library

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