

by design



CENTER STAGE

DCS donates a 36-inch Professional Grill to one of Chicago's first green buildings by Jennifer Chesak | photos by Mike Calabro

With the media abuzz with the topics of global warming and toxins, chances are you've already taken certain measures to live a healthier life and protect the environment. Easy ways to go green include recycling, utilizing alternative transportation and buying organic foods and other products. If you're really ready to take sustainable living to the next level, however, you can even build green—and that doesn't mean living off the grid in a yurt.

Take a cue from Chicago's brand new Center on Halsted, a community center that, through careful planning and innovative design, is 20 percent more energy efficient than buildings created by standard construction, without sacrificing any amenities. And Center on Halsted guests have luxuries like a donated DCS 36-inch Professional Grill to enjoy.

"Center on Halsted is an amazing building, built for a wonderful cause," says Toni Ouellette, DCS by Fisher & Paykel product manager. "We wanted to applaud the efforts of the people who put so much work into designing a space that is safe for the environment and also a safe haven for so many people."

The Center on Halsted was designed to meet the cultural, emotional, social, recreational and educational needs of Chicago's gay, lesbian, transgender and bisexual community. The 60,000-square-foot facility contains, among other things, the Billie Jean King Recreation Hall, the Hoover-Leppen Theater and the Richard M. Daley Roof Garden, where the grand opening celebration was held. Guests can grill out on the deck overlooking the Chicago skyline, and with Whole Foods as a retailer on the ground floor, there's no shortage of organic veggies, fresh seafood and choice cuts of beef or poultry at the ready.

Feeling green with envy about Center on Halsted's environmentally friendly living space? By utilizing recycled materials and incorporating renewable energy resources into your home, you can go green yourself. Here's how the Center did it.

Restoration

With its restored terra cotta façade and soaring glass atrium, Center on Halsted is a fine addition to Chicago's impressive architecture. The original façade was built in the 1920's and each tile

had to be carefully catalogued and restored offsite by Power® Construction. The preservation is part of an agreement made with the City of Chicago and the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.

Recycling

The building, designed by the Gensler architect firm, was built with reusable materials such as high fly-ash content concrete, steel, brick, window glazing, aluminum window framing, concrete masonry units, acoustic soundproofing, ceiling tiles and carpet. The company also eliminated as much waste as possible during construction. Waste from the build was carefully sorted offsite and 88% was diverted from landfills to recycling facilities.

Energy

The building's energy supply consists of 50% purchased green power made from renewable energy sources such as water, sun and wind. In addition, most of the building's roof consists of white thermoplastic olefin roofing (TPO) and a garden space to eliminate the heat island effect. Daylight and motion sensors on lighting fixtures reduce energy consumption within the building.

Water

The Center collects rain water from roof drains so that it can be used to flush toilets in the building.

Air Quality

Heating, cooling and ventilation are zone-controlled by monitors that detect carbon dioxide emissions. The system can detect the number of occupants in a room and adjust for better air quality.

For its green building efforts, Center on Halsted earned a silver rating from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings.

For Tico Valle, executive director of Center on Halsted, the decision to go green was simple. "It was the right thing to do," he says. "We're beginning a new legacy of service to our community." DCS by Fisher & Paykel is proud to be part of this passion and dedication and looks forward to hearing about the delicious green meals grilled and served on Center on Halsted's deck. **1**



(Here) The Center on Halsted serves as a welcoming beacon in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood; (Below) Chef Scott Reichelsdorf of J & L Catering shows off his chipotle-glazed grilled shrimp prepared on the DCS by Fisher & Paykel 36-inch Professional Grill for the Center's grand opening celebration.

