

# ROCKINGHAM COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER WENTWORTH, NORTH CAROLINA

## Enforcing Energy Efficient Stewardship

*Size: 184,516 S.F.*

*Budget: \$39,059,000*

*Bid: \$37,757,000*

*Completion: 2011*



The new Rockingham County Judicial Center will provide for the county's courthouse, jail and law enforcement services through a three-story facility. Programmed to accommodate 359 employees and an eventual 300 inmates, the facility is also the first judicial center in the state to seek certification from the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED® Green Building Rating System and is pursuing a LEED Gold rating. Among the center's high performance and green building design strategies are:

- an Energy Star® compliant, highly-reflective roof membrane to lessen "heat island" effects and help keep the building cool;
- rain cisterns to provide landscape irrigation and aid in stormwater management;
- preferred parking for carpool and low-emitting, fuel efficient vehicles to alleviate automobile traffic and pollution;
- a 33 percent decrease in building water consumption through low-flow and dual-flush plumbing fixtures, saving over a million gallons of water annually (Note: As note above, rain cisterns save another 660,000 gallons, bringing the water savings close to 2 million gallons);
- energy-efficient technologies projected to reduce energy expenditures by 28 percent, or \$94,000 per year;
- recycled building materials and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)-certified wood;
- outdoor air delivery monitoring systems to ensure an adequate supply of fresh air to each building zone;
- individual lighting controls that enhance occupant comfort and reduce energy consumption; and
- environmentally-friendly housekeeping and pest management program.

The energy and water savings of this building are projected to recapture the county's entire investment in LEED strategies (including those that support indoor air quality and the like) in only 5 years. The building is projected to save over \$5 million dollars over a 40 year period (and likely even more as utility rates continue to go up).

