

CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

Brock Environmental Center—Rainwater Harvesting & Reuse

Virginia Beach, Virginia



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A Chesapeake Bay Foundation environmental education center is designed to meet the industry's most stringent sustainability standards and become one of the nation's first "Living Buildings."

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is an independent conservation organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. CBF operates out of offices in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and DC as well as 15 field centers. One of its newest facilities is the Brock Environmental Center, located in Virginia Beach, VA. Intended as a regional home for its environmental education programs, the Center itself is an innovative example of environmentally sensitive and smart building. It is among the first in the nation to embrace energy and water independence. Designed by SmithGroupJJR, the Center is set to be certified as one of the first structures in the mainland U.S. to achieve the most

advanced measure of sustainability in the built environment: a "Living Building."

Biohabitats provided peer review for the design of the building's rain-to-potable-water infrastructure. The system consists of rain cistern, filtration, and disinfection components. Biohabitats also helped the design team attain permitting for the project.

As a site that has achieved Living Building certification, the industry's most rigorous sustainability standards, the Center is permitted to supply all of the water and energy it needs while composting all of its building and human waste.

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Permitting

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