

# Eden Hall Campus Master Plan & First Phases of Development

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



Mithun



Mithun



BNIM

from top: Rendering of constructed wetland at campus entrance and Field Lab; Campus-scale water treatment and reuse strategy; Detail of proposed master plan

conservation planning  
ecological restoration  
regenerative design



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*Chatham's new Eden Hall campus is becoming a model of sustainability learning in higher education and features innovative ecological water recycling technologies.*

When Pittsburgh's Chatham University was gifted the 388-acre Eden Hall Farm in 2008, they set out to create a model campus with sustainability as a core focus. Home to the new School of Sustainability and the Environment, the new campus includes an environmental learning lab, initiatives in sustainability and environmental studies, food studies, landscape architecture, and women's studies.

Biohabitats worked with the architectural team of BNIM and Andropogon Associates to create the campus master plan. Biohabitats created an extensive water balance for the site and applied an innovative water infrastructure approach that examined the integration of natural wastewater treatment and rainwater harvesting. Considerations such as nutrient cycling, agricultural linkages, and energy intensity of treatment options were included.

The project has now progressed to the first phases of development, which includes an eco-center, renovation of the farm's historic barn, an aquaponics field lab, a library/café, and a residence lodge. Working with Mithun (architect/landscape architect), Biohabitats engineered and permitted the advanced natural wastewater treatment systems, which are integrated closely with the learning landscape of the new campus. The high-quality reclaimed effluent is reused to supply 100% of the project's toilet flushing demand. Any excess unused effluent is slowly and safely dispersed back into the soils through subsurface irrigation systems.

## SERVICES

- Inventory & Assessments
- Planning
- Green Infrastructure
- Design
- Permitting

