2010 National Achievements in Environmental Justice Awards

Recognizing Successful Partnerships
Achieving Public Health and Environmental Justice Goals

EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park Partnership
San Francisco, California

EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park with stormwater collection cisterns

EcoCenter's Bayview Hunters Point Community groundbreaking

EcoCenter construction

EPA is pleased to recognize the EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park Partnership for creating an environmental justice education center for use by the residents of San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point and other communities with environmental justice concerns.

The EcoCenter is the first environmental education center in the Bay Area that focuses on environmental justice, and plays a major role in eco-literacy training for students, teachers, and communities in San Francisco. It is dedicated to teaching the principles of environmental justice through demonstration. The EcoCenter is accessible to a significant number of residents, and is located in an area of the city where the greatest number of children and youth live. The EcoCenter teaches that design and architecture have a responsibility to go beyond aesthetics to play a regenerative role in communities that have been burdened by environmental problems. It has its own wastewater treatment system, generates its own energy and heat, and maximizes the use of natural light.

The EcoCenter serves a community experiencing great environmental distress from a legacy of military operations, power generation, and industrial operations. It is a central resource where environmental education organizations can offer programs and provide participants with tools for critical thinking about urban sustainability, environmental stewardship and advocacy.

Partners

California Coastal Conservancy
California State Water Resources Control
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Literacy for Environmental Justice

Port of San Francisco
San Francisco Department of Public Health
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