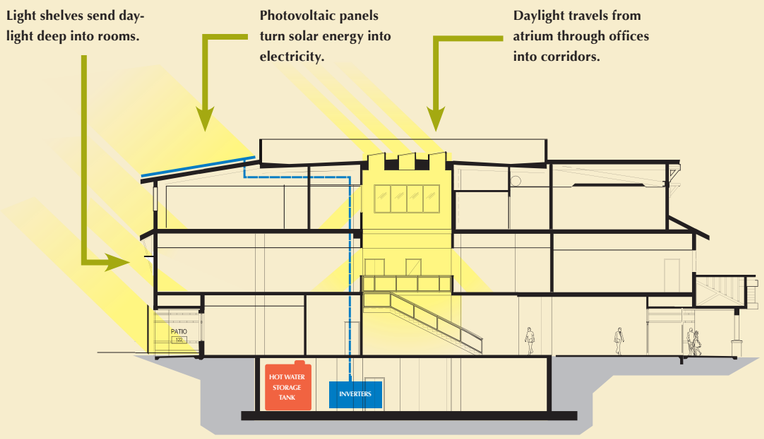
Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences

WELCOME TO THE NEW HEART OF LEARNING AND DISCOVERY IN THE TAHOE BASIN. IT'S A SCIENCE LAB, HANDS-ON PUBLIC MUSEUM AND COLLEGE CLASSROOM. AND IT'S AS EARTH-FRIENDLY AS A BUILDING CAN BE.

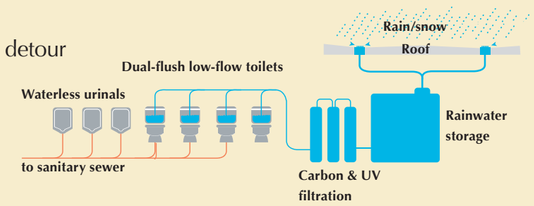
There's something for everyone in the new Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences. For families looking for fun and learning, there are lively interactive demonstrations of the Tahoe Basin's important ecological challenges. For sixth-grade school groups, there is a kid-friendly (and teacher-friendly!) science curriculum. For college students, there are classes and research opportunities. For people trying to build greener homes and workplaces, there are working examples of sustainable design, construction and landscaping. And for the region's scientists and public employees—who together are charting the course for the Tahoe Basin's long-term health and well being—there are state-of-the-art laboratories and conference rooms where discoveries will be made and shared. It's all here, on the campus of Sierra Nevada College in Incline Village, starting Saturday, Oct. 14. Peek inside and see what's in store for you! ■

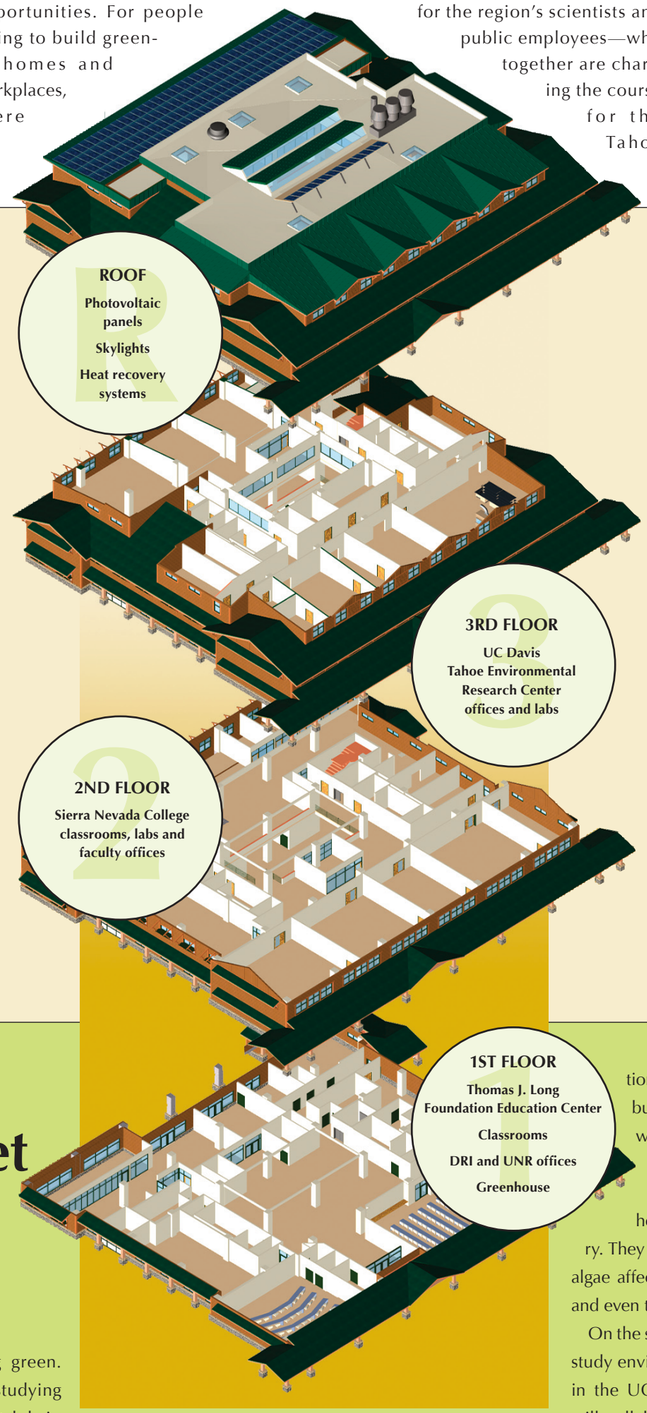
Getting the most from the elements



Precipitation takes a detour

Using rain and snowmelt in toilets saves water and reduces stormwater runoff.



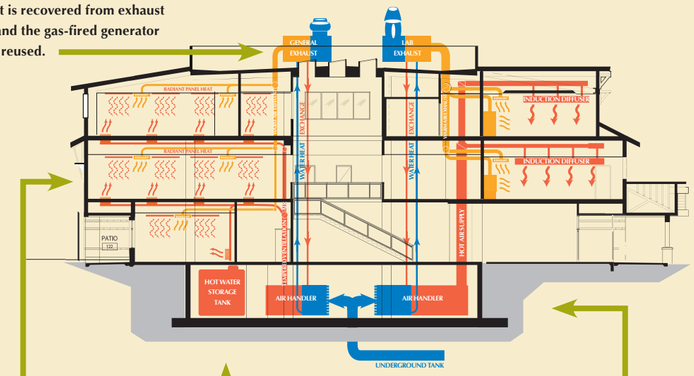


Efficient use of resources

The building uses half the energy of a conventional laboratory/office design through many innovations including:

- **Cooling water at night eliminates the use of compressors, refrigerants and their associated emissions.**
- **Uses "displacement" ventilation in the office areas and, for the first time in the U.S., energy-efficient "active chilled beam" ventilation in the labs.**

Heat is recovered from exhaust air and the gas-fired generator and reused.



In winter: Gas-burning boilers, plus recovered heat, warm water in pipes, which radiate heat from floors and ceiling panels.

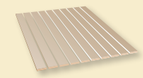
Co-generator burns clean natural gas to make electricity. Waste heat heats water for sinks.

In summer: Water is chilled in tower by night air, then stored underground. Cold water travels through floors and ceiling panels to absorb heat from the interior rooms.

Air is circulated largely for ventilation, not temperature control, so fans run much less.

Wall insulation is made of recycled cotton denim pants.

Trees were milled on site and used for finish work.



Outdoor enclosures are built of Trex (recycled plastic and wood).

TAHOE CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

GRAND OPENING CEREMONY

SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 2006
2 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

Join us for the first tours of this new state-of-the-art facility for research and public education.

On the campus of
Sierra Nevada College
999 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, Nev.

The Thomas J. Long Foundation Education Center will be open to the public on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

More public hours will be added soon.

Sierra Nevada College · UC Davis University of California · DRI Desert Research Institute · University of Nevada, Reno

Birth of a community asset

Two states, four schools combine efforts in a project of permanent public value

FORTY YEARS AGO, Lake Tahoe was turning green. UC Davis researcher Charles Goldman was studying how to keep it blue, working in a makeshift lab in Tahoe City—"doing world-class research in a third-world facility." Decades passed, the scientific corps swelled, and understanding of the lake's living systems grew ever more sophisticated. But the UC Davis lab where it all began remained the same.

At last, in 1994, fears for the lake reached a fever pitch, and people around the world started donating to the construction of a new, modern laboratory. Their generosity, combined with state and federal taxpayer dollars, has resulted in the new Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences.

The major public space in the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences is the $2 million Thomas J. Long Foundation Education Center. Visitors will pass through the building's front doors into a large, bright atrium filled with exhibits that were planned with local residents and schoolteachers. They will learn from a video "virtual researcher" aboard a simulated Lake Tahoe research boat and inside a simulated laboratory. They may measure water clarity, see how sediment and algae affect the lake, and "fly" over the Lake Tahoe Basin and even the lake's underwater valleys and mountains.

On the second floor, Sierra Nevada College students will study environmental science. On the third floor, scientists in the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center will collaborate with counterparts from the University of Nevada, Reno, and The Desert Research Institute.

The Tahoe Center for the Environmental Sciences grew from the need for an adequate research facility. In the end, it has become a place for scientists, students and the entire community to learn how to keep Lake Tahoe blue. ■

FISH HATCHERY RENOVATION

In 2007, UC Davis will begin a $3 million renovation of the historic Tahoe City Fish Hatchery. Research labs will move to the new Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences in Incline Village. In their place will be modern field-preparation labs, equipment lockers, office space and a small public interpretive center. ■

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