

Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®



Certification

The Northern Virginia Association of REALTORS®, or NVAR, supports local Realtors® through resources, events, education, and advocacy. NVAR's new headquarters building, completed in 2010, was certified LEED® Gold in 2011 for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design by the US Green Building Council.

Energy Efficiency

NVAR's headquarters was designed to use 40 percent less energy than a standard building meeting code requirements. The facility is oriented with long windowed facades facing north and south to maximize indirect sunlight, thereby minimizing the energy needed for artificial light. The use of transparent glass walls enables natural light to travel even further into interior spaces.

Recycling

The NVAR headquarters recycled 75 percent of the waste generated during its construction. The building's steel components and rubber roof are made from recycled materials. Recycling areas on each floor were designed to be a prominent part of the building's architecture, and employee guidelines further promote recycling and other sustainable practices.

Water

Native plants surrounding the building are drought resistant. As a result, the building does not need an irrigation system and uses minimal water for landscaping. Additionally, half of the parking spaces are underground, which reduces the impervious ground area, promotes natural water absorption, and decreases run off.

Transportation

Alternative modes of transportation are promoted by providing bike racks, showers, and changing areas for employees. The building also earned LEED points for choosing a location within a quarter mile of multiple bus lines and providing reserved parking spaces for fuel efficient vehicles.

www.nvar.com

Organization Type

Association

Number of Fairfax County Employees

30

Fun Facts

NVAR designed its new facility to be educational for visitors. Rather than placing green roofs on top of the building where the public cannot experience them, green roofs cover much of the ground level, providing visitors with a plaza level green roof where they can learn firsthand about green building techniques.

In March 2016, NVAR treated the Boys and Girls Club of Fairfax County to a building tour to teach them about eco-friendly buildings, the construction process, and daily business practices. Graham Road Elementary students have also taken the tour.