

Portsmouth Public Library  
A Sustainable Site

Goals:

- Environmentally responsible materials and construction methods
  - Reuse and recycling in construction and a plan for such activity once building is in operation
  - Reduction of energy consumption during construction and upon occupancy
  - Building healthy to occupy (for workers, visitors and neighbors)
1. Energy conservation  
Super envelope—superior insulation; highly performing windows  
Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system—superior efficiency—estimate 20% efficiency above code—energy model predicts 32.8% above—3 years performance at higher level  
All light fixtures high efficiency  
Water efficient fixtures (toilets and sinks). Water efficient landscaping, native plants
  2. Materials  
No endangered materials  
Only certified wood (certified to come from well managed sources)  
Natural materials whenever possible—Manufactured materials nonpolluting  
Local materials whenever possible (less transportation)  
Low waste. All materials throughout project sorted for reuse and recycling--99% for deconstruction material; 75% construction waste diverted. Reuse of materials from other City sites.  
Areas designated for recycling upon occupation. Recycling plan written.
  3. Impact on surrounding environment  
Controlled water runoff  
No light trespass onto neighboring property. No uplighting into night sky.  
Enclosed mechanicals—no outside equipment noise  
Access—Walkable, near concentration of population, on route of public transportation, shared parking to avoid paving large areas
  4. Healthy to occupy  
Carpet, paints, adhesives, sealants, composite wood products, all non-emitting or low-emitting fumes  
Operable windows (top panel only for security)  
Daylighting in all rooms (better for occupants and saves energy in artificial lights)  
Outside views in all regularly occupied spaces  
Controlled acoustics  
Air quality testing before and after occupation

Building achieved silver certification with the US Green Building Council under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. Systems have been “commissioned” to ensure proper installation and operation of high efficiency equipment.

**General Building Facts**

Gross floor area:	Net floor area:
1 <sup>st</sup> floor - 21,448 sf	1 <sup>st</sup> floor - 20,490 sf
2 <sup>nd</sup> floor - 18,094 sf	2 <sup>nd</sup> floor - 16,201 sf
Attic floor - 18,094 sf	Attic floor - 16,351 sf
Total Gross floor area -- 57,636 GSF	Total Net floor area - 53,042 sf

Architect: Thomas Amsler, Marblehead MA  
[tomamsler@gmail.com](mailto:tomamsler@gmail.com)

Construction Company: North Branch, Concord NH  
Construction Manager: Robert Smith  
[www.northbranch.net](http://www.northbranch.net)

