

# NEWS FROM



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## **With a Spate of LEED-Certified Projects, Hardin Construction's "Green" Credentials Are Glowing**

**ATLANTA, GA** (Jan. 10, 2011) — Hardin Construction Company is glowing greener than ever. A spate of recent projects, including residences, a major attraction, and college and corporate buildings, achieved LEED certifications, showcasing Hardin's depth and versatility in sustainable construction.

Higher education is the arena for several notable green projects.

Two new buildings at Young Harris College in north Georgia recently earned U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED certifications. Enotah Hall, a 200-bed student residence hall with geothermal heating and cooling, became the first building in North Georgia to achieve LEED Silver. And Young Harris' 57,000-square-foot, multipurpose Recreation Center, completed last July, earned LEED Certified status for its environment-friendly elements and construction practices.

### **Green Early and Often**

LEED Gold went to two Hardin projects that were part of the Atlanta Botanical Garden's \$55 million Green Expansion: an innovative visitor center that captures natural light and features two green roofs that absorb rainfall and provide sound and thermal insulation; and a parking facility nestled into a steeply sloped, once-blighted hillside.

And in Orlando, Florida, another Hardin project, the new corporate headquarters for Darden Restaurants, in 2010 was awarded LEED Gold. The 469,000-square-foot building became the largest LEED Gold (new construction) building in Florida.

Hardin's expansive green portfolio also includes community residences. In Cleveland, Georgia, the Whitehall apartments—a Paces Foundation project serving families and seniors—achieved LEED Gold certification for five separate buildings, including the first LEED Gold certification awarded to an affordable, senior housing facility in Georgia.

Hardin caught the green wave early. The company collaborated with Southface and the U.S. Green Building Council in the early 2000s to launch an internal educational initiative. Today, nearly one-third of Hardin's operations staff members are LEED Accredited Professionals, and Hardin is known for its expertise in green building and for obtaining LEED certifications for its clients. Southeast Construction magazine ranks Hardin among the region's leaders in green building. Hardin has also received several Urban Land Institute Development of Excellence awards.

A sampling of Hardin's green projects: the Arthur M. Blank Family Office, Georgia's first LEED Gold certified building; College of Management, Technology Square at Georgia Tech (LEED Silver); Terminus 200 in Buckhead (LEED Gold); and the internal build-out of Hardin's own headquarters building (Gold).

Currently, nine Hardin projects either have LEED certifications pending, or are being built to LEED certification standards. Included: a University of North Carolina at Greensboro academic classroom and office building (Gold); the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis (Silver); the Auburn University Track and Soccer Facility (Silver); and eilan mixed-used complex in San Antonio, Texas (Certified).

"Green consciousness is growing, and Hardin is positioned to meet the demands of the market," says Hardin Construction Company Chairman Brantley Barrow. "It's also gratifying to play a role in enhancing our communities' quality of life."

#### **ABOUT HARDIN CONSTRUCTION:**

Celebrating 65 years of excellence, Hardin Construction Company, LLC is one of the nation's leading construction services firms, providing unequalled expertise for projects of broad scope and complexity through its culture of integrity, innovation and opportunity. With capabilities in general construction, construction management, design-build and renovation, Hardin is a leader in green building and sustainable practices and is recognized nationally for its safety practices. Privately-held, Hardin's headquarters is in Atlanta, Ga., with offices in Tampa, Fla., Orlando, Fla., Raleigh, N.C., and Austin, Texas. For more information, visit [www.hardinconstruction.com](http://www.hardinconstruction.com).

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