Part of this visitor center project was the deconstruction of the old Lassen Ski Chalet (pictured below) that was built in 1964. This building supported the former winter ski operations and was no longer needed. Much of that building was recycled and materials reused in the new visitor center project or salvaged for other use outside the park. Eighteen large Glue-Lam beams were salvaged for use by the California Department of Forestry for one of their projects; porcelain restroom fixtures, water heaters, lumber, hardware were salvaged for reuse and all concrete recovered from demolition (1400 tons) was crushed into gravel and recycled.

Join the Green Team – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle!

You can help keep Lassen Volcanic National Park clean and green by participating in the park's recycling program. Each year the park recycles tons of plastic, glass, aluminum, tin, and paper. When you deposit empty glass, aluminum, and plastic containers in our green recycle bins, you are not only keeping more trash out of land fills, but also saving energy and reducing carbon emissions. It takes less energy to make more cans and bottles from recycled materials than raw materials extracted from the earth.

Now It's Your Turn

Saving energy and living more environmentally friendly is something everyone can do. The Kohm Yah-mah-nee Visitor Center has sophisticated systems to operate most efficiently for this environment, but some features are ones you can do at home or in your workplace. Here are some of the easier things you can do:

- Replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent
- Use both sides of a sheet of paper
- Turn off running water when you brush your teeth
- Turn off unnecessary lights when you leave a room
- When you are cold, put on a sweater instead of turning up the heater
- Turn off appliances (TV, computer) when not in use
- Recycle your glass, paper, and aluminum containers.

An excellent resource book for more ideas can be found in the visitor center bookstore called, *It's Easy Being Green*. Once you start making some of these changes you will find it really is easy to be green.

Lassen Volcanic National Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

It's Easy Being Green

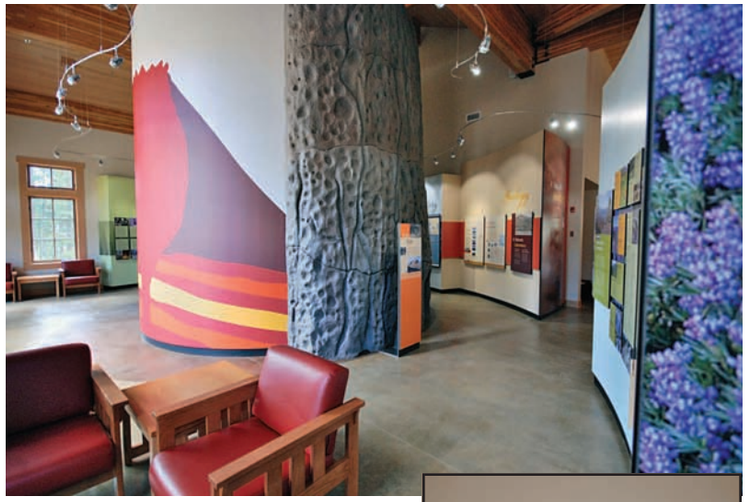
- Especially from the start

Visitors to Lassen Volcanic National Park are seeing green in more places than the park's forest and meadows. This building has been green from its initial design through, construction and into its operation, now and far into the future. As you walk around this visitor center you can learn about the various features that support the National Park Service goal to balance visitor needs with resource efficiency.

Heating is provided through an efficient, in-floor radiant system. The cooling system utilizes the earth as a heat sink through a water-to-water ground source heat pump system.

Lighting using no incandescent-based lamp fixtures is controlled by a daylight harvesting system, which dims lights when natural daylight provides enough light to meet all or part of the center's lighting needs.

Exhibit Hall



Carbon dioxide monitors ensure that the building receives healthy quantities of fresh air.

Indoor materials, furnishings, and cleaning products have been selected for a healthy building atmosphere for park visitors and staff.

A photo-voltaic system located off-site is dedicated to this building and generates 30-40% of its electricity during the year.

Lobby

Restrooms

Water conservation fixtures such as waterless urinals, dual flush and low flush toilets, and low flow faucets with photocell sensors reduce water consumption.

Wood used in construction is from regional forests certified by the Forest Stewardship Council for sustainability.

Building materials with recycled content and long life expectancies such as cement-based siding, 50-year roof shingles, and recycled content floor, wall tile, paint, carpet, and countertops have been used.

Building Entrance

The roof's eaves are designed to shade windows during summer months to prevent unwanted heat gain. During winter months when the sun angle is low, direct light will help heat the building.

Outdoor Landscape

The native landscape planting design, includes species selection, placement and distribution, is modeled after the natural vegetation of the surrounding red fir forest. The plantings will require no irrigation and serve important ecological functions such as soil stabilization, improved fertility of disturbed soils, reduce the likelihood for exotic species to establish in disturbed areas, and facilitate natural succession.

LASSEN VOLCANIC NATIONAL PARK

Kohm Yah-mah-nee
2008