



The Casco Bay Estuary Partnership's new home is the Wishcamper Center, located at 34 Bedford Street in Portland, Maine. The newly opened Center houses the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service, which serves as the host organization for the CBEP, as well as the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

The Wishcamper Center was designed by Koetter Kim & Associates of Boston to be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-certified "Gold", meeting the U.S. Green Building Council's nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings. The



second floor forum has a "green roof" covered in vegetation to absorb and filter water, a low-impact-development stormwater best management practice that was partially funded by the Casco Bay Estuary Partnership. In addition, the Estuary Partnership provided funding for another of the building's low impact designs, the porous pavement walkways which allow rainwater to be filtered before entering the City's stormdrain system.

A nearly carbon-neutral facility, other green features of the building include:

- Heating and cooling is accomplished via geo-thermal energy from wells drilled 1,500 ft. into the earth.
- Rainwater is collected from the roof and recycled.
- All materials are low emission, containing a high percentage of recycled material and where possible brought in from local sources.
- The majority of all the wood products are from Forest Stewardship Council certified forests, which use environmentally responsible forest management techniques.
- The pavement around the building has been restored to living, permeable landscape.
- The fourth floor roof is covered in highly reflective energy star rated roofing membrane to conserve on energy use.