

# Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center

As part of the redevelopment of the former Glenview Naval Air Station, the Village of Glenview elected to preserve approximately 14 acres of remnant prairie along with 18 acres of old field buffer habitat as the Kent Fuller Air Station Prairie. To enhance the educational value of the prairie, the Village constructed the Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center, completed in October 2006 and now owned by the Glenview Park District. The Tyner Center is a “green building,” and has been certified by the U. S. Green Building Council as LEED Platinum, the highest possible designation under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating system.

Integral to this highest LEED status is the building’s and site’s use of innovative design features, such as a green roof and permeable pavement. The use of these features, along with the surrounding native vegetation of the site, significantly reduces the amount of stormwater runoff from the site compared with conventional construction. Because stormwater is retained on site, water quality within the West Fork of the North Branch of the Chicago River watershed is enhanced.

Four key practices were considered in the construction of the Tyner Center: 1) Disturbing as little of the existing prairie landscape as possible, and replanting with native species where necessary; 2) Constructing the building on “pins,” which allow limited amounts of storm water to collect under the building, rather than a traditional foundation; 3) Use of a green roof system to reduce and filter storm water runoff from the building; and 4) Use of permeable pavement to reduce and infiltrate storm water runoff from the parking area.

The Evelyn Pease Tyner Interpretive Center provides groups and individuals with educational opportunities during both formally scheduled and informal visits. The interpretive center is designed for an indoor capacity of 40 individuals at a time, to allow, for instance, one class to make use of the indoor learning center while others make use of the outdoor environment. Even when closed, however, the Tyner Center fulfills an educational function, as interpretive signs and displays are accessible from the building’s exterior.

Location: 2400 Compass Road, Glenview

Construction complete: October 2006

Grand Opening: April 14, 2007

Benefits:

- Infiltration of runoff through permeable pavement
- Green roof absorbs rainwater and insulates building
- Education through signs and interpretive displays.

**Green Roof:** A roof of a building that is partially or completely covered with vegetation. These serve several purposes including: absorbing rainwater, creating a habitat, and providing insulation.

**Permeable Paving:** Materials and techniques for paving roads, parking lots, bike paths, etc., that allows the movement of water and air through the paving material.



Top: Construction of the “green roof”  
Bottom: Interpretive displays at the Center



The Village of  
**Glenview**