2016 Green Ribbon School

- For sustainability education, environmental impact and health & wellness
- 1 of 11 US higher education awardees & first in NJ

LEED buildings
- GOLD - Bateman Center for Student Life & Leadership
- SILVER - West Building, Science Center Expansion & Workforce Training Center

Rainwater Harvesting
- The Bateman Center for Student Life and Leadership has a rainwater-harvesting system that captures rainwater from the roof and stores it in a 4,000 gallon tank in the basement. The water is filtered and piped to the building’s toilets and the irrigation system for the two-story green wall. The system cost $106,000 and saves approximately $8,250 annually, for a 12-13 year payback. Three 500+ gallon rain barrels collect rainwater for plant irrigation, with overflow going to the campus rain garden, saving $500 annually for a 3 year payback.

Green Roof
- Student Frank Dahlhaus created a 600 square foot green roof on a portion of Hunterdon Hall. The green roof contains a wide variety of locally native plants, provides insulation, and reduces stormwater runoff and peaks. The cost of $10,000 was much less than it would have cost to source from a third party.

Solar Array
- RVCC’s 446kW solar array provides most of the electricity needed for two buildings. The College purchases the generated electricity for just $0.05/kWh, saving roughly $50,000/yr. RVCC does not yet own the array or its SRECs, but ownership will be transferred after 15 years (in 2026).

Cogeneration
- In 2007, RVCC became the first community college in the country to run an energy-saving cogeneration plant. The plant generates 1.4MW and is run during business hours when campus electrical demand is high. The plant reduces carbon emissions by 1900 tons and saves $400,000 annually.

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