



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Two Library buildings officially recognized for outstanding energy efficiency

Two branches of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County were officially awarded LEED silver-certification today. Library officials, Board member Elizabeth H. LaMacchia, and staff of the Reading and St. Bernard branch libraries were on hand for the ceremony, which celebrates the creation of two efficient and modern spaces that will serve the community and save money for years to come.



The [Reading](#) and [St. Bernard](#) branch libraries feature geothermal heating and cooling, use less water and energy and reduce greenhouse emissions. They save money in the long run by lowering the cost of operations.



LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Certification was devised by the United States Green Building Council to evaluate the environmental performance of a building and encourage builders to use sustainable design practices. Certification is based on a points system. The more points you earn, the higher your rating.

The 12,000 square foot Reading branch is located on Reading Road across from Southern Avenue, and the 8,000 square foot St. Bernard location is on the corner of Vine Street and McClelland Avenue. Both were built new and opened in June 2015.

“When we built these new libraries, we wanted to demonstrate our commitment to the community by creating a building that is functional, beautiful and energy-efficient,” said Kimber L. Fender, the Eva Jane Romaine Coombe Director of the Library. “Getting our LEED certification was a priority.”



THE  
PUBLIC  
LIBRARY  
of Cincinnati  
and  
Hamilton County

## About The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is one of the oldest, largest, and busiest libraries in the United States, serving a population of over 800,000 with a collection of more than 9 million items. In support of its mission of connecting people with the world of ideas and information, the Library also offers a wide variety of services and more than 20,000 free programs each year. For more information, visit [CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://CincinnatiLibrary.org).

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