



Environmental Sustainability
The South River Trail
Rockdale County

Imagine getting on a bike at the Monastery of the Holy Spirit in Conyers and riding all the way to the Carter Center in downtown Atlanta. The **South River Trail** through Rockdale County is part of a network of trails that expands recreation opportunities and connects communities in Rockdale, DeKalb and Henry counties and beyond. The project has resulted in the protection of more than 1,000 acres of greenspace in Rockdale County and connectivity Panola Mountain State Park, South Community Park, the monastery, the cities of Conyers and Lithonia, Stonecrest Mall and several area schools and beyond.

2007 DEVELOPMENTS OF EXCELLENCE



The Development of Excellence Award
West Village

West Village is a true mixed-use community, designed with inviting public spaces, parks, single-family homes, townhomes, multi-family units and a community center. The development includes more than 1,100 residential units and 190,000 square feet of retail.

Seventeen acres are devoted to green space and recreation and a community center anchors the retail village and provides a central gathering spot for residents. Trails throughout the allow residents to easily access the town square, community center and the Silver Comet Trail.

Exceptional Merit for Sustainable Building & Design
Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center

Opened in 2006, the **Gwinnett County Environmental and Heritage Center** is a model for sustainable design and construction, minimizing disturbance to the land and maximizing energy efficiency.

The 59,000 square-foot heritage center uses 75 percent less potable water and 35 percent less energy than conventional buildings of the same size. The most unusual feature is the green roof covering the entire facility. Nearly an acre in size, it is the largest sloped, vegetative roofing system in the United States.

