



Client:
Longwood Gardens

East Conservatory Plaza

Design Professional:
Wells Appel, Farewell Mills
Gatsch, & Delaware Engineering

Location:
Kennett Square, PA

Delivery Method:
Construction Management

Key Challenges:

- Schedule adherence, co-occupancy with owner and guests, tight construction space with little room for materials storage / lay down

Longwood Gardens' East Conservatory Plaza is a new space that will be a central and stately destination for guests. Its open and welcoming design will provide grand views of the Conservatory, space to relax, and environment friendly rest rooms. Throughout the project, guests will still be able to enjoy all of Longwood's spectacular indoor and outdoor gardens without interruption. The Plaza will open in summer 2010.

A circle of stately stone paving will flow through the space, creating a grand walkway that leads guests to the majestic Conservatory. Terraced seating surrounding the Plaza will provide a comfortable location from which to enjoy the surrounding landscape, the area will also be used for informal gatherings, including educational talks and demonstrations.

The new East Plaza features many design elements based on conservation of natural resources. The underground rest rooms will showcase the best practice for insulation with earth, an age-old concept that is very energy efficient. In addition, a clear ceiling will allow natural lighting of the space. The finished building will combine environment friendly and efficient use of heat, water and construction materials while remaining elegant and imaginative in design.