

**Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences
Virginia Commonwealth University and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries
Charles City County Virginia USA**



Virginia Commonwealth University uses the Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences to teach its students, and visiting kindergarten through high school pupils, about the Commonwealth's delicate ecology. And for biological research, conducted in partnership with the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Brian Broadus AIA, then working for Train & Partners Architects of Charlottesville, nursed two schematic designs of M. Kirk Train to difficult, final completion. Brian mastered the complex demands of the natural setting and the details of sustainable architecture and green-building rating systems. The first structure, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Region One Headquarters (see reverse) is built on posts so as to preserve topography, and is an emergency response center. The second building, pictured above, is the first USBC-certified LEED-Platinum facility in the Commonwealth: the Walter L. Rice Science Education Building. For schoolchildren and used as a meeting facility, Rice harvests rainwater for domestic purpose, has a vegetated roof, geothermal units that heat or cool the cast-in-place concrete floor slab as the season requires, photovoltaic cells generating electricity, soy-based wall insulation, a structural-insulated-panel roof deck, special handicapped-accessible porous walkways, and a James River view.

"2009 Overall Project of the Year," *Mid-Atlantic Construction Magazine*

"History does not mark and measure change: it illuminates that which prevails against change."

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