



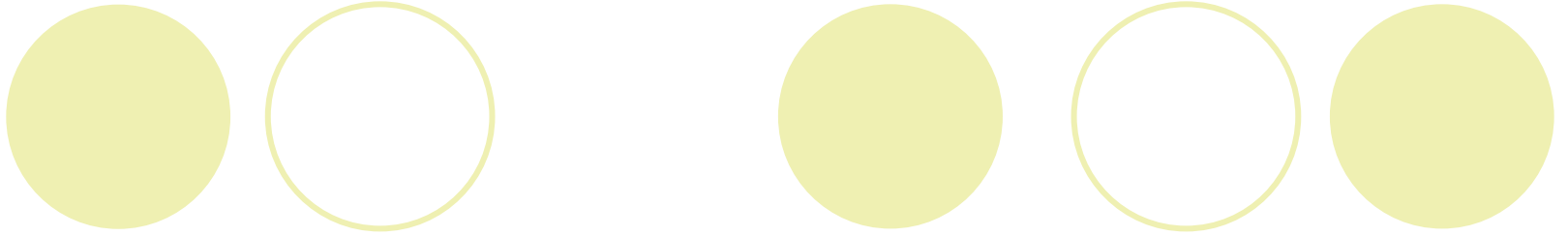
*The Adam J. Lewis Center  
for Environmental Studies*

*at Oberlin College*

*ENVS 634- Green Design & the City*

*Buildings- 3/30/04*

*Najwa N. Smith*



"Is it possible to design buildings so well and so carefully that they do not cast a long ecological shadow over the future that our students will inherit?

We now know that such things are possible-  
-that buildings can be designed to give more than they take." -David Orr

# Project Partners



- William McDonough & partners
- Amory Lovins (Rocky Mountain Research)
- John Todd (Ocean Arks, Inc.)
- Living Machines, Inc.
- National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL)
- NASA- Glenn
- Loisos/Ubbelohde
- Johns Lyle (Andropogon Associates)
- Lev Zetlin Associates

# Research Questions

- How does the pattern/magnitude of energy use compare?
- What changes will take place that might alter future performance?
- Do the building and landscape foster biological diversity?
- Are the ecological and mechanical systems diverse in function as well as in structure?
- What effect do materials used in the construction have on local, regional & global ecosystems?
- Does the building maximize opportunities for students, faculty/staff, and communities to learn about ecological design? Does the Center serve as a laboratory that allows us to evaluate and improve the practice of ecological design?







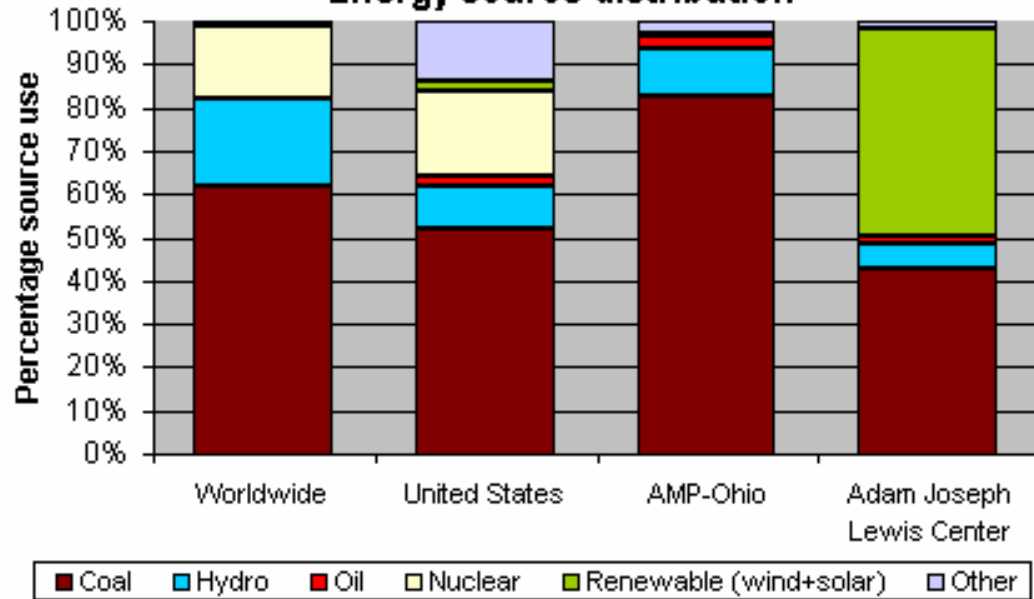








**Energy source distribution**











# Original Requirements

- The Center would discharge wastewater at least as pure as the water it takes in.
- Would generate more electricity than it uses.
- Would incorporate no material known to cause cancer, birth defects, hormone disruption, or other hazards.
- Would use energy and materials with great efficiency.
- Would use products and materials grown or manufactured sustainably.
- Would be surrounded with landscape that promotes biological diversity.
- Would meet rigorous requirements for full-cost accounting.

# Sources



- Oberlin College Adam J. Lewis Center homepage  
<http://www.oberlin.edu/envs/ajlc/>
- EcoDesign Matters  
<http://www.isdesignet.com/Magazine/Oct%2700/eco.html>
- Lewis Center Dedication Symposium  
[http://www.oberlin.edu/newserv/stories/lewis\\_dedication\\_symposium.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/newserv/stories/lewis_dedication_symposium.html)
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- Second Nature: Education for Sustainability  
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- Building, Design & Construction Magazine  
<http://www.bdcmag.com/magazine/articles/b01d030.asp>
- Lewis Center Revisited [http://www.wcpn.org/news/2002/04-06/0507lewis\\_center.html](http://www.wcpn.org/news/2002/04-06/0507lewis_center.html)