

## From...Green Innovation at Phipps.



[Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens](https://www.phipps.conservatory.org)  
<https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/green-innovation>

**Celebrated as the most energy-efficient structure of its kind when it opened in 2006, this 12,000-square-foot display greenhouse uses almost no electricity ...**

**LINK:** <https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/green-innovation/for-the-world/climate-change>

Built in 1893 at the height of Pittsburgh’s industrial revolution, Phipps Conservatory — a gift to the city from philanthropist Henry W. Phipps — was brought into existence as a sanctuary, a verdant space where smog-weary citizens could find respite from the notorious steel mills and smoke stacks that relentlessly polluted our metropolis. Today, as one of America’s greenest public gardens in one of the nation’s most livable cities, Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens not only carries on this legacy, but continues to evolve far beyond our own founding mission by reimagining and reinventing our campus, and establishing ourselves as an international leader in sustainable architecture and operations.



As part of this evolution and a three-part master plan for expansion that began in the 1990s, we have since built:

- the first LEED® visitor center in a public garden;
- a tropical forest conservatory celebrated as the most energy-efficient structure of its kind in the world at the time of opening;
- the first-ever LEED production greenhouse; and
- the Center for Sustainable Landscapes, a dynamic education, research and administrative facility that is the first building anywhere to achieve four of the globe's highest green building certifications.

With these additions, the heritage of our past merges seamlessly with modern sensibilities, making Phipps a true symbol of regeneration and renewal.

## Phipps and Climate Change

Our sustainable buildings, operations, research, and educational programming are driven by our position on climate change. Read on to discover what we're doing.

Phipps is committed to promoting human and environmental well-being through action and research. Phipps is in consensus with the National Academy of Sciences position on climate change, which states that "[human activities, especially the burning of fossil fuels \(coal, oil, and gas\), are responsible for most of the climate change currently being observed.](#)" Nearly nine out of 10 Phipps guests surveyed in 2016 consider climate change a threat now or in the future.

Phipps aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and lead the way to address climate change through our buildings, operations, research and programs while helping our visitors, members and neighbors to take similar steps at home and in the community. Check out our new video, inspired by National Geographic's "**Paris to Pittsburgh**" documentary, to learn what Phipps is doing to keep Pittsburgh at the forefront of climate leadership:

**READ MORE AT LINK:** <https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/green-innovation/for-the-world/climate-change>