

## Sustainable Stacks

Spacesaver® Cantilever shelving helps support the LEED® certification goal of Anacostia Public Library in the District of Columbia.



### Challenges:

As part of a district-wide library revitalization effort, Anacostia Public Library was selected to be rebuilt. The library had to become a space used not only for book storage but for meetings, adult learning, conferences, socializing and computing.

The neighborhood is predominately low-income with a high ratio of children. As plans were developed for the new library it was also important to design a space that could easily be transformed as the demographic changed from a younger population to a more adult population.

The District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) has projected all new libraries be built to a LEED Silver standard, meaning that the interior furnishings and finishes had to contribute to this sustainable design goal.

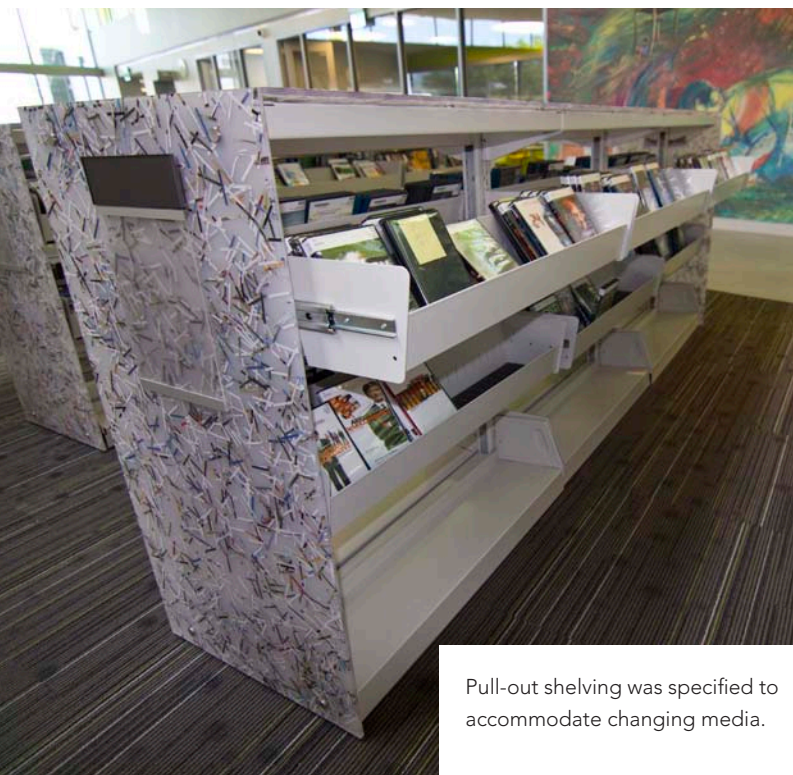
### Solution:

The DCPL selected Spacesaver® cantilever shelving as their storage solution because the product allowed the team to both customize and standardize.

The space planning team, which included Freelon Architects and Spacesaver/Infolinx, the authorized Spacesaver representative and member of the North American Spacesaver Group of independent contractors, worked together to create stacks oriented to allow for maximum day lighting throughout the space.

The stacks were also designed to incorporate a translucent resin product, which incorporated recycled content and enabled additional daylight to flow through the space. Spacesaver's engineering department was essential in making this custom end panel solution possible, and their collaboration with the local team contributed to the success of the project.

Careful thought was put into the selection of the shelving paint color so that all libraries in the District of Columbia could be standardized on the product going forward.



Pull-out shelving was specified to accommodate changing media.



The resin end panels and canopy tops allow for more natural light to flow through the space, and they incorporate recycled content.



The Children's area is a crucial department in this library, due to the large youth population.

### Result:

The Anacostia Public Library is predicted to achieve LEED Gold Certification, which is one level higher than the minimum Silver level the team needed to achieve. The successful collaboration between the DCPL, the local Spacesaver representative, and Freelon Architects early on in the planning process was key to developing and executing the many sustainable storage solutions found in the project.

Beyond providing a product with 90% recycled content, "Spacesaver helped to contribute to part of what I would consider the spirit of sustainability, and the LEED Certification level that we were trying to achieve, which was LEED Silver," said Kathryn Taylor, Interior Designer with Freelon Architects.

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Kathryn Taylor, Interior Designer,  
Freelon Architects

The DCPL has also standardized on the Spacesaver product. This allows the library system to move product from branch to branch, without having to purchase new product if the needs of the patrons change.

The residents of Anacostia have been able to use this new library with its wi-fi access, meeting rooms, study rooms and children's area with ease. The sustainable successes achieved by this building's design were crucial to the District of Columbia and the local ecosystem, but the fast adoption of this new and improved learning space by the local residents is the biggest win for the community.

To learn more about how a Spacesaver Storage Specialist can help you overcome your storage challenges, please visit [www.spacesaver.com](http://www.spacesaver.com) or call 1-800-492-3434.



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