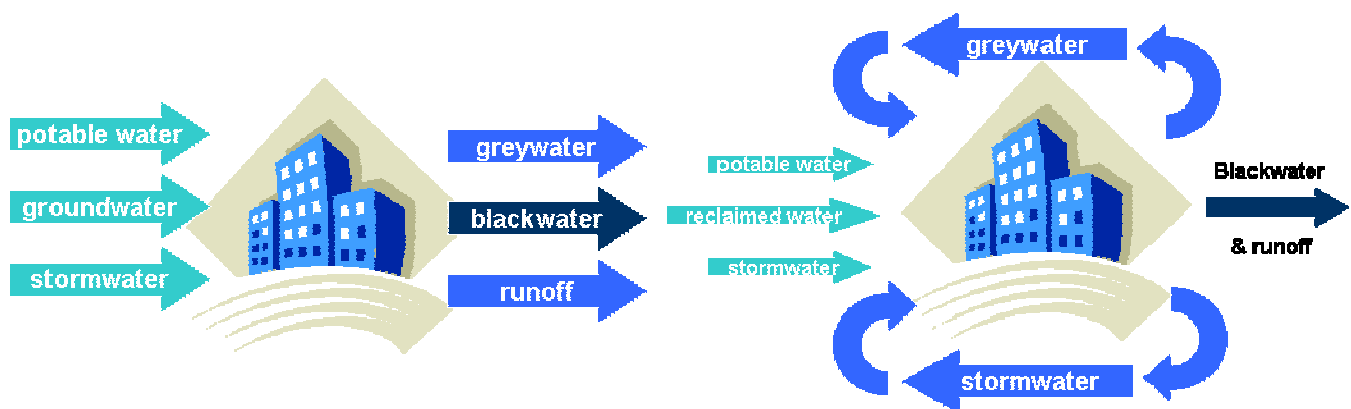


## CEE helps to promote the green building movement

Green buildings are high performance buildings that emphasize integrated design, occupant productivity and low consumption of energy, water and non-renewable resources. Greater awareness on sustainability and concern about climate change have propelled green buildings to newspaper headlines across the country. This Fall, a new USF student organization is being launched with the explicit mission of promoting green buildings and green design in general. The group is the **Emerging Green Builders (EGB) at USF**, a part of the Florida Gulf Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. The USGBC is the organization responsible for developing the industry-standard Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED<sup>®</sup>) green building rating system. Departing from the traditional model of organizational officers, the leadership of EGB-USF consists of four co-chairs representing the major green building disciplines: Engineering (**Caryssa Joustra**); Business (**Jack Bevilacqua**); Architecture (**Chris Cox**) and Planning/Environmental Science & Policy (**Trey McDonald**). The group is guided by advisor **Dr. Daniel Yeh** and an Advisory Group comprised of faculty and professionals of diverse backgrounds yet linked by a common passion for sustainability. This Fall, EGB-USF will be organizing a series of talks by green building experts, arranging visits to green building sites in the Tampa Bay area, preparing for a green design competition, and partnering with other student organizations to make USF campuses green.

Water efficiency and reuse is a significant component of the LEED<sup>®</sup> rating system. CEE undergraduate student Caryssa Joustra has been working with Dr. Yeh for the past year on integrated building water management (IBWM) for green buildings. For her Honors College thesis, Caryssa is developing a computer model to track building water budget and project demand and discharge under different scenarios. Joustra and Yeh recently presented a talk entitled “Water management options for green building LEED certification” at the Florida Local Environmental Resource Association (FLERA) meeting in Sarasota. They will also present a talk entitled “Green building water budget and reuse modeling – a tool for sustainability” at the WaterReuse Symposium in Tampa in September.



*Water budget in a conventional (L) and a green building (R). Green buildings emphasize reduction of potable water consumption and wastewater generation through high efficiency approaches and innovative water recycling.*

A new course related to green buildings and smart growth is being developed. In Spring 2008, Dr. Yeh will be teaching CGN 4933: Green Infrastructure for Sustainable Communities. As part of the course, students will learn how to navigate through the LEED certification process as part of a multidisciplinary team to design a green building. In addition to engineering students, students from

architecture, planning, business and other disciplines are anticipated. Please see Dr. Yeh if you are interested in signing up for the course.



*Local green building example: the new **Dunedin Community Center**, a LEED Silver-pending facility, exemplifies many green features including xeriscaping, low impact development, use of reclaimed water for irrigation, water-saving fixtures, use of recycled and low-VOC building materials, and energy efficient lighting and HVAC, among others.*