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The Bellevue Medical Center is “Going Green”

As the construction workers begin to dig in at the corner of Highway 370 & 25th Street in Bellevue, you’ll soon see the signs of the state-of-the-art medical complex being constructed. You may also notice the special attention paid to the environment as well. Months of careful planning has revealed a true dedication to the preservation of the environment and natural setting that exists.

The Bellevue Medical Center utilizes the practices set forth by the *Green Guide for Health Care*, which is a quantifiable design toolkit that integrates enhanced environmental and health principles into the planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance of the facility.

“Environmental preservation has been a very important part of our project from day one,” said Cindy Arbaugh, Project Administrator for Bellevue Medical Center. “Unfortunately, some of the trees in the area have to be removed for safety purposes as decay and rot have set in, but we hope that by involving environmentalists, foresters and arborists during our design and planning stages, we can preserve many of the natural elements for the residents to continue to enjoy. Preserving the natural state of the wetlands and adding a “healing garden” should actually improve the environment.”

Chip Murrow from the Nebraska Forest Service added, “Getting all of us “green people” together early will positively impact the site, environmentally, for the future. I think it’s a huge plus that the Bellevue Medical Center incorporated the existing environment into the design phases of their project.”

The Bellevue Medical Center will provide general medical services, labor and delivery care, emergency care, inpatient and outpatient surgery and intensive care. Construction is expected to be complete in early 2010. Additional information can be found online at www.bellevuemed.com.