



Memorial Sloan Kettering
Cancer Center

Community M A T T E R S

NEWS FROM MEMORIAL SLOAN KETTERING CANCER CENTER - WEST HARRISON

MSK West Harrison Brings Home the Gold

At first glance, looking beyond the dated brick-and-metal-panel building that would transform into MSK West Harrison was a challenge for our design team. While the location offered great potential to become the latest MSK outpatient facility, turning an existing 1950s office building into a 114,000-square-foot, contemporary cancer center was not for the fainthearted.

The team's goal was to create an ideal experience for patients within a sustainable, green environment—without sparing any details. "The design features of this intuitive, serene space work to maximize patient comfort and reduce anxiety," says Suzen Heeley, Executive Director of Design and Construction. We're delighted that MSK West Harrison also achieved US Green Building Council (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification for environmental sustainability.

Learn how MSK West Harrison helps the environment with these innovative features:

Alternative Transportation

To reduce pollution and traffic congestion, we secured a new bus stop on the Westchester Bee-Line bus system. And we make it easy for our employees to bike to work by providing bike racks and showers.

Cooling System

Overnight when electricity use is low, our chiller equipment is busy generating ice to cool the water flowing through our air conditioning system. This helps to keep us cool and saves energy.



Caring for you – as well as the environment is our top priority at MSK West Harrison. Patients and family members can enjoy our serene, outdoor garden on the lower level during their visit.

Design for Daylight

Natural light not only makes you feel better but also saves energy that would be used for lighting. The design of MSK West Harrison utilizes a number of skylights and floor openings to bring daylight to the interior of the building.

Energy Efficiency

The building was designed with energy-efficient building management systems, which control lighting, heating, and cooling, among other things. About half of the electricity used at MSK West Harrison is purchased from renewable sources.

Green Housekeeping

We strive to keep MSK West Harrison both clean and green using cleaning products that are Green Seal-certified. By reducing potentially hazardous exposure to some chemicals, we are helping our patients, visitors, and staff to breathe easier.

Preferred Parking

Want the best parking spot? Drive a low-emission or fuel-efficient vehicle such as an

electric or hybrid car and we'll have a spot reserved just for you! These vehicles save gasoline, reduce tailpipe emissions, and reduce the carbon impacts of travel.

Recycled Materials

MSK West Harrison was built by converting a vacant office building, reusing much of the original structure. Materials used to renovate the facility contain high amounts of recycled content and are low in or free of toxic solvents or chemicals, including VOCs and PVCs.

Water Efficiency

The plumbing fixtures in our restrooms and service areas are designed to conserve water. The hands-free low-flow faucets, showerheads, and toilets use about 30 percent less water than conventional plumbing fixtures – saving thousands of gallons of water each month.

And we're not done yet. Our next facility, to open in early 2016 – the Josie Robertson Surgery Center in Manhattan – is shooting for Gold as well!



Local Artists Display Works



You are invited to join us for an art reception featuring works by local artists Tova Snyder and Deborah Loeb Bohren on Thursday, September 10, from 5:00 – 7:00 PM at MSK West Harrison, 500 Westchester Avenue. Please RSVP by September 8 to mskwestharrison@mskcc.org. Artwork courtesy of the artists.

Patients, family members, and staff who step into MSK West Harrison are greeted by a beautiful, calming environment enhanced by a series of rotating art exhibitions featuring local artists. The current ten-artwork exhibition, Untethered: Local Artists with Global Vision, features works by Tova Snyder and Deborah Loeb Bohren.

“With our Outpatient Art Program, we want to redefine what people expect from healthcare facilities by understanding that patients and caregivers are unique individuals with diverse tastes, preferences, and needs,” says Sarah Campbell, MSK’s curator. “In this exhibition,

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the deep space in Ms. Bohren’s photography is a balanced complement to the mural qualities in Ms. Snyder’s work.”

Meet the Artists

Both artists showcased at the site are deeply influenced by their fathers. (Ms. Snyder’s is a painter and ceramicist and Ms. Bohren’s was a photographer.) Ms. Snyder has a studio near MSK West Harrison, in the town of Port Chester, and spent a portion of her

childhood in Rye. You can view her design of 12 panels in faceted glass, Railways and Rooftops, at the Harrison Metro North train station.

Ms. Bohren grew up in Yonkers and moved west before returning to the Westchester area to raise her family. She exhibits her photography throughout the tristate area and will participate in the Fall Crafts at Lyndhurst fair in Tarrytown from September 18 to 20.

“Patients find comfort in being surrounded by beautiful artwork. Each colorful image tells a story that enables them to be distracted from the reason they are here,” says Administrator Nancy Diamond. “In keeping with our longstanding Westchester roots, we’re delighted to showcase the work of local artists.”