

## Abstract - Jacob White Construction Company

### Jacob White Construction Company Wins Texas Water Development Board's Rain Catcher Award for Fall 2007

The Texas Rain Catcher Award recognizes Jacob White's use of three elements that work together to save and reuse water at its high-performance medical office building at 251 East Medical Center in Webster, Texas. The first element is the cistern which is concealed beneath the parking lot and is used for both storm water retention and irrigation. Jacob White excavated for over 700 lineal feet of 4' by 8' concrete box culverts to hold 175,000 gallons of water. The second element is the 14,559 square foot living roof on the building, which can absorb and reuse up to a 2" rainfall; 70% of all rain that falls on the green roof is retained to sustain the vegetation growth. The remainder goes to the culvert detention system under the parking lot. The third element is that grey water from sinks and drinking fountains is sent to the underground culverts instead of to city sewers. Additionally, all plumbing fixtures are low water usage fixtures. "It's not just about doing the right thing and saving the environment; sustainability is a money maker," says Jeff Mickler, President of Jacob White Construction Company.