

# Green actions in Latvian information institutions

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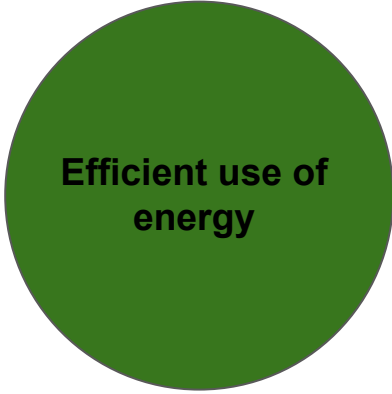
# Riga Central Library

Riga Central Library (RCL) is a municipal institution of the Riga city. It offers public library services in 25 stationary locations (the main building + branches), as well as 3 external service points and a specialised reading room.

Registered users can take books, music records, films and other materials, read newspapers and magazines, as well as receive counselling from librarians on the use of computers and access to different databases. RCL also provides premises for art exhibitions and various events for adults and children.



# Key green actions in RCL



**Efficient use of energy**

High use of natural daylight in the main building

Newer branches (like Āgenskalns) have efficiently-planned premises



**Sustainable internal activities**

Waste sorting, recycling

Reducing need for printing



**Reducing the need for polluting transport**

Many services are now offered digitally

Public transport hub nearby

Great accessibility for cyclists

# RCL also brings readers closer to nature

## Beach reading room “Lucavsala”

During the summer season, RCL operates a dedicated reading room on the island of “Lucavsala”, right next to the city beach. This reading room not only offers anyone interested an access to the resources of a library on a beach, but is also almost a zero-energy building.



# RCL also brings readers closer to nature

## Project “Meeting site – the library”

Some RCL branches have green areas, and they use them to organise different events for local communities throughout the city.

These outdoors events not only promote proximity to nature, but also consume less energy compared to indoors events.



# National Archives of Latvia

The National Archives of Latvia (NAL) is government institution with such structural units:

- State Historical Archives of Latvia;
- State Archives of Latvia;
- Latvia State Archive of Audiovisual Documents;
- State Archives of Personnel Records of Latvia;
- *11 regional state archives*;
- Department of Institutional Records and Archives Management;
- Department of the Preventive Preservation and Administration.

NAL accumulate and store the records with archival value, provide access to them, supervise the observance of records management and perform other functions specified in Archives Law.

# Optimisation for greener NAL

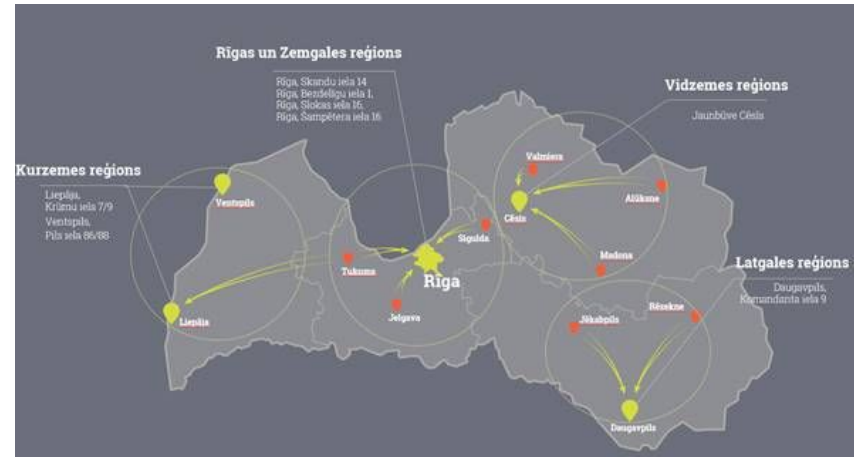
A plan to optimise infrastructure and raise efficiency – both structural units and used buildings.

Renovation, rebuilding, raising energy efficiency and other developments of buildings in 7 addresses (Riga, 3 other cities). New buildings in 2 addresses (Riga, 1 other city).

In result, state buildings in 13 addresses will be freed (Riga, 10 other cities) and no more renting in 3 properties (Riga, 2 other cities).

From 20+ buildings to 8.

From 10+ structural units to 4 main regional centres.



# State Archives of Latvia

Located in two buildings:

- specially built for archival needs (1982);
- closed short-term factory (1985; in NAL use from 1997, renovation started in 2019) – first priority in optimisation plan.



Riga, Bezdelīgu Street 1A



Riga, Skandu Street 14



# Other green actions in NAL

- More and more electronic documentation, services and other processes.
- Re-evaluation of stored documents archival value.
- Remote work where possible.
- Most of employees use public transport to get to work.

# Green actions in Fashion Museum

Although clothing history exhibitions highlight its estetics and art, museum specialists are also interested in sustainability.

Educational activities for highschool students, lectures for adults.  
Creates awarness about influence on nature:

- fashion industry (production, marketing, conditions for employees);
- daily habits (consumption, wearing, cleaning).



# Green actions in Latvian National Museum of Natural History

Gets involved into preservation of biological diversity.

Collaboration with biologists to research invasive species in Latvia (trees, plants, insects, mammals, etc.). Research resulted with exhibition “Foreigners in our nature” (*Svešie mūsu dabā*), seminars, educational activities, virtual posters and catalogues.



## KARTUPEĻU LAPGRAUŽIS

*Leptinotarsa decemlineata*  
Колорадский щекотун  
Colorado potato beetle

### PAZĪMES

Vaboles ir līdz 12 mm garas, tām ir dzelteni spārni ar 10 melnām svītrām, kas atspoguļojas arī šī kukaiņa zinātniskajā nosaukumā decemlineata. Kāpuri ir līdz 16 mm gar, drūki, sarkani līdz oranžbrūni. Vaboles izdod pavasarī un oļš olas kartupeļu lapu apakšpusē grupās pa 30-40, kopā viena mātīte var izlēt 400-800 olas. Izstrīdusēs kāpuri uzturas vienkopus un grauž kartupeļu lapas. Kāpuri atstājot īpaši 16-24 dienas, tad tie iekūpojas augsnē. Vaboles izkūrojas augusta sākumā un barojas ar kartupeļu un tomātu lapām. Vaboles pārziemo augsnē ap 30 cm dziļumā. Gadā atrodas 1 paaugze.

**IZCELSME**  
Ziemeļamerika

### IZPLATĪŠANĀS VEIDS

Kukainis 19. gs beigās pirmoreiz konstatēts Eiropā, Lielbritānijā. Masveidā šī suga Eiropā sāka izplatīties Pirmā pasaules kara laikā Francijā. Latvijā pirmo reizi konstatēta 1958. gadā, domājams, tā ieceļojusi gar Baltijas jūras piekrasti no Polijas.

### IETEKME

Vabole un kāpuri galvenokārt pārtiek no kartupeļu laktēm, vaboles barojas arī ar tomātu un citu nakteju dzimtas augu laktēm.

### KO MĒS VARAM DARĪT?

Kartupeļu lapgraužim Latvijā apstākļos nav nozīmīgu dabisko ienaidnieku, tāpēc skaitu regulē zema temperatūra ziemā. Cilvēks var ietekmēt šo sugu, mainot augu seku. Ja suga konstatēta nelielā platībā, jāsavāc kartupeļu lapgrauža kāpuri, paaugusās vaboles un oļu dējumi, tomēr lielās platībās efektīvā ir tikai ķīmiskie līdzekļi.



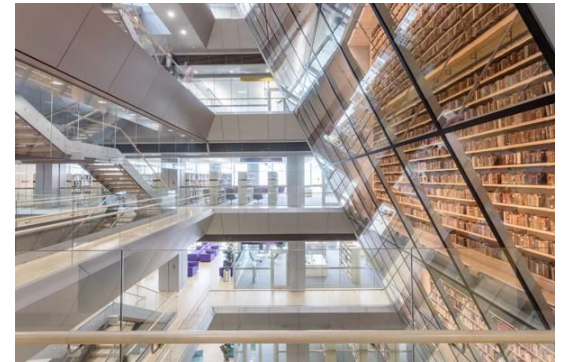
PAVASARĪ VABOLES VAR NOLIDOT VAIRĀKUS DESMITUS KILOMETRU, LAI ATRASTU KARTUPEĻUS, UZ KURU LAPĀM UZDĒT OLAS.

# Green actions in the National Library of Latvia

The building of the National Library of Latvia (NLL) was opened in 2013. As the name of the building – “The castle of light” – suggests, the indoors premises are well-lit by daylight, thus saving electricity.

In future, NLL plans to install solar panels on the southern part of its sloped roof.

Additionally, on each floor NLL provides free drinking water for readers, thus decreasing the need to use plastic bottles.



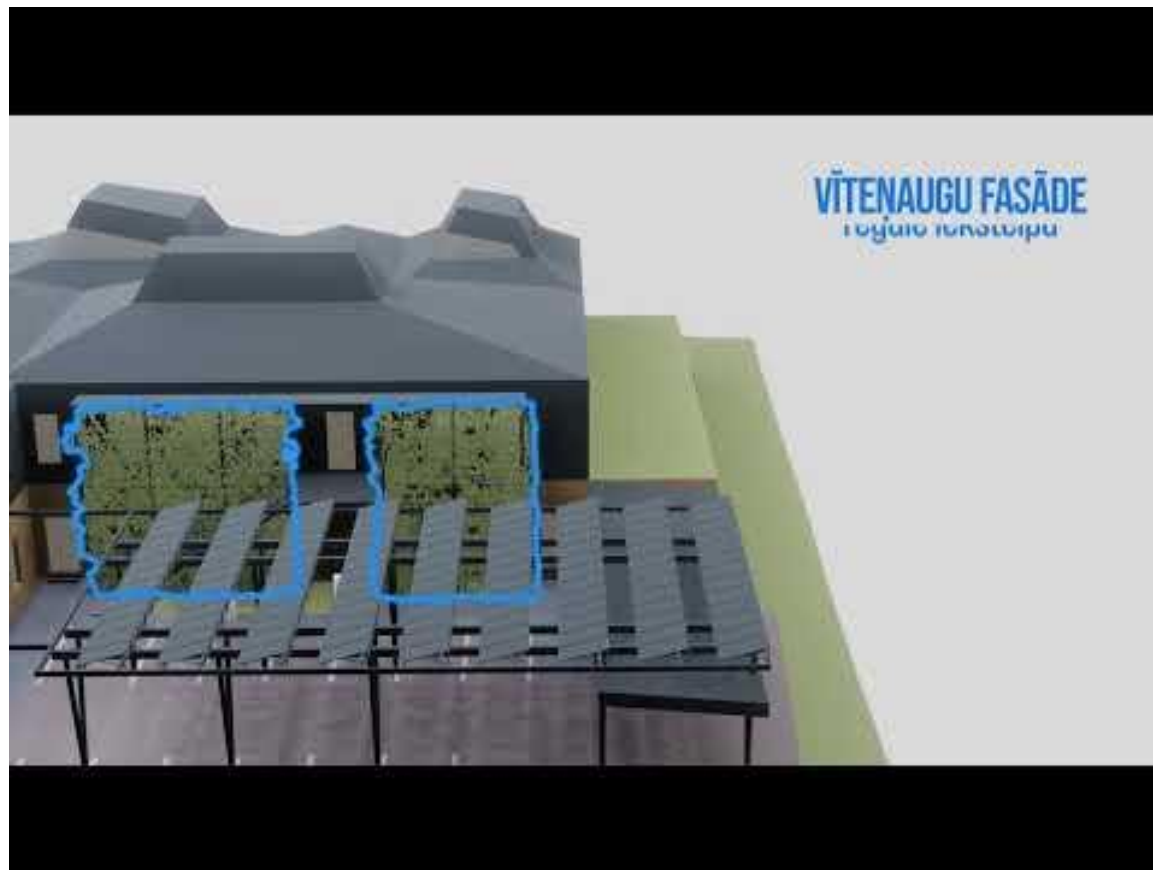
# Green actions in Ogre Central Library

Opened in 2021, the premises of Ogre Central Library won a competition of newly-constructed buildings in Latvia. It is a modern wooden two-story building with high level of energy efficiency by design.

The outdoors of the library are filled with greenery and allows for many events outdoors.

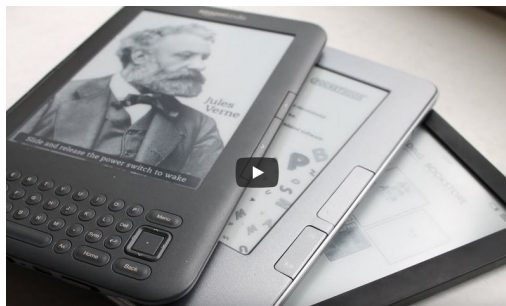
In 2021, it was nominated by IFLA as one of the four best new libraries in the world.





[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G\\_qkMGIGG1I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_qkMGIGG1I)

# Other green actions in Latvian public libraries



Ventspils Library



Bauska Central Library



Lasiēt aicina KISC sadarbībā ar Tīto Latvija un apgādu Zvaigzne ABC  
E-book Library of the  
"Third Father's Son"



Ventspils Library



Jelgava district Nākotnes Library

# Green Library of NGO “Green Liberty”



Zaļā brīvība

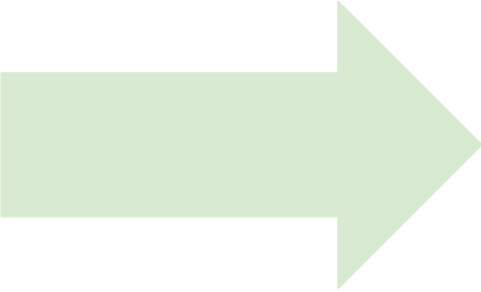
Green Library founded in 1993 as part of Environmental Protection Club of Latvia. Based on this special library, in 2000 was founded NGO “Green Liberty”.

Unique and reliable resources about protection of the environment and related issues – books, periodicals, documents, electronic publications, videotapes. Biology, ecology, biodiversity, pollution, environmental policy, education, history, health and many other topics.

Reading room and loan for home use.

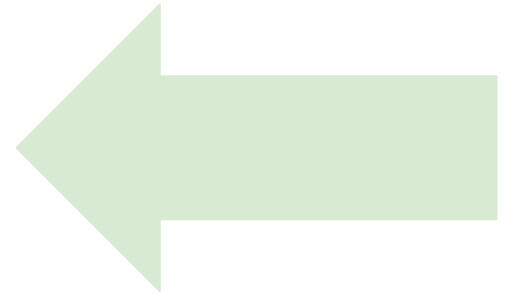


# Conclusions



Although many information institutions in Latvia are not located in modern buildings which were constructed with high energy efficiency by design, many actions are taken in practice to make the daily operations as green as possible.

To improve the energy efficiency in the future, more investment into new premises and technologies will be necessary. Many institutions have already taken first steps to achieve this goal, and progress is made year by year.



# For further exploring

- Riga Central Library: <https://www.rcb.lv/>
- National Archives of Latvia: <https://www.arhivi.gov.lv/en>
- Latvian National Museum of Natural History: <https://www.dabasmuzejs.gov.lv/en>
- Fashion Museum: <https://www.fashionmuseumriga.lv/eng/>
- National Library of Latvia: <https://lnb.lv/en>
- Ogre Central Library: <https://www.ocb.lv/>
- Ventspils Library: <https://biblioteka.ventspils.lv/en/>
- E-book Library of the “Third Father's Son”: <https://www.3td.lv/>
- Jelgava district Nākotnes Library:  
<http://www.jelgavasbiblioteka.lv/par-mums/citas-bibliotekas/nakotnes-biblioteka/>
- Bauska Central Library: <https://www.bauskasbiblioteka.lv/>
- NGO “Green Liberty”: <https://www.zalabriviba.lv/greenliberty/>;  
its Green Library: <https://www.zalabriviba.lv/par-zalo-brivibu/biblioteka/>

# Any questions?

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