

Online Information and Tools

General Resources

U.S. Green Building Council (<http://www.usgbc.org>)

The USGBC web site contains information on the Council and the LEED™ Rating System, including reference materials and the current LEED™ Rating System. You can also find:

- LEED Letter templates
- Credit Interpretation Requests and Rulings
- Summary of LEED Documentation Requirements
- FAQ sheet
- LEED developments and product drafts
- USGBC monthly newsletter
- Recommended books, newsletters, etc.
- Extensive relevant website links including for codes and standards, case studies, initiatives, analysis tools, funding, LCA/LCC, media, etc.
- Green building case studies
- Economic analyses

National Institute of Building Sciences: Whole Building Design Guide (<http://www.wbdg.org>)

Design guidance for specific building types; Detailed discussion of strategies for everything from daylighting to sustainable construction practices, materials/products to codes & standards, and numerous other sustainable design topics. Particularly strong with respect to energy-related topics and tools, but not at all lacking in comprehensive coverage of the broader topics of sustainable design—addressing cost-effectiveness of strategies, potential for productivity improvements, and even historic preservation.

U.S. Department of Energy

Building Technologies Program: Software tools; Case studies; Energy statistics and strategies by building type; General methodologies; Publications; other resources

(<http://www.eren.doe.gov/buildings>)

High Performance Buildings Initiative: Case studies; Design Approach/Strategies; Tools; Technologies;

High Performance Buildings Database (<http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/highperformance/>)

NREL High Performance Buildings Research (<http://www.nrel.gov/buildings/highperformance/>)

Closely coupled to the DOE High performance Buildings Initiative and similarly focused on energy efficiency; Additional specifics on software tools, case studies, related research programs, and the NREL Center for Buildings and Thermal Systems (http://www.nrel.gov/buildings_thermal/)

Federal Energy Management Program, U.S. Department of Energy (<http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp>)

Information on alternative financing, case studies, training opportunities, resources; includes *Greening of Grand Canyon* and other Greening reports and *Greening Federal Facilities Guide*

Building Green/Environmental Building News (<http://www.BuildingGreen.com>)

Includes material from EBN, bibliography and other resources, calendar of events, ordering information for GreenSpec, Green Building Advisor, and other resources

International Initiative for Sustainable Built Environment (<http://www.greenbuilding.ca>)

Information on an international effort to develop a method for assessing "green-ness" of buildings

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (<http://www.epa.gov>)

Includes information on statutes and regulations, indoor air quality, EPA programs and initiatives, and environmental databases (see, for example, Surf Your Watershed under Ecosystems on the extensive Key Topics menu)

U.S. EPA New Building Design Guidance and Target Finder (<http://www.energystar.gov>)

Energy Star tools and resources; Target Finder and New Building Design Guidance (http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=target_finder.bus_target_finder) (http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=building_design.bus_new_building_design) assist users with setting energy targets, enhancing the conventional design process, and moving toward energy performance goals (for these and other links, [Search: New Building Design](#))

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program/EPA (<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/>)

Includes "how to" information and resources, including EPP guidelines

General Services Administration - Buildings, Environmental Programs

(
<http://www.gsa.gov/Portal/gsa/ep/channelView.do?pageTypeId=8195&channelPage=/ep/channel/gsaOverview.jsp&channelId=-13907>)

The GSA is the owner/provider of facilities for over 100 Federal government agencies and, as such, is among the largest real estate owners in the U.S. This site includes case studies, resources, GSA green-building programs, etc.

REDI Database (<http://www.oikos.com/products/>)

A searchable database with information on a wide range products, technologies, and materials

Sustainable Sources (<http://www.greenbuilder.com/general/BuildingSources.html>)

Includes a wide range of resources from listing or green building professionals, to a materials database, and even listings of green real estate for sale. It also includes an extensive online Sustainable Building Sourcebook (<http://www.greenbuilder.com/sourcebook/>)

Green Building Discussion Group (<http://www.buildinggreen.com/elists/>)

This Green Building Discussion Group, sponsored by *Environmental Building News* and REPP-CREST (the Renewable Energy Policy Project and Center for Renewable Energy) is open to anyone interested and includes useful Highlights Page (<http://www.buildinggreen.com/elists/contents.cfm>)

AIA Committee on the Environment

(<http://www.AIATopTen.org>)

Includes top green projects for the last approximately five years

Building Systems Design, Inc. SpecLink/PerSpective/CostLink

(http://www.bssoftlink.com/speclink/sl_frame.htm)

Includes over 700 master specification sections, performance oriented project descriptions, and cost estimating tools for designers

Making the Business Case

Capital E Study: Green Building Costs and Financial Benefits (Nov 2003)

<http://www.cap-e.com/spotlight/index.cfm?Page=1&NewsID=25770>

The Costs and Financial Benefits of Green Building: California Case Study

www.usgbc.org/docs/news/news477.pdf

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/greenbuilding/Design/CostIssues.htm#Cost&Benefit>

Design Tools

Life Cycle Costing - eVALUator

eVALUator is an easy-to-use Windows™-based program that calculates the lifecycle benefits of investments that improve building design. It analyzes the financial benefits from buildings that reduce energy cost, raise employee productivity, and enhance tenant satisfaction.

<http://www.energydesignresources.com/resource/131/>

Department of Energy Building Software Tools:

http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/tools_directory/

http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/tools_directory/software/blcc.htm

Whole Building Design Guide

EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program is responsible for providing information to federal agencies to assist them in practicing environmentally preferable purchasing (EPP). Because construction and renovation of buildings constitutes a large share of federal expenditures and may involve significant environmental impact, EPA has a special interest in providing tools to promote environmentally preferable purchasing during these activities.

<http://www.wbdg.org/design/greenspec.php>

Sample green RFP Language

<http://www.aia.org/pia/cote/rfp/>

http://www.cityofseattle.net/sustainablebuilding/Leeds/sample_language.htm

State and Regional Resources Outside of Colorado

Pennsylvania green building focused GGGC (Governor's Green Government Council)

<http://www.gggc.state.pa.us>

Includes information on Pennsylvania's green building activities, an extensive list of library holdings (bibliography), *Guidelines for Creating High-Performance Green Buildings*, and an order form for the free video of the Department of Environmental Protection office building.

City of New York, Department of Design and Construction

<http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/nyclink/html/ddc/home.html>

Contains downloadable High Performance Building Guidelines including useful appendices

Seattle Sustainable Building

- <http://www.cityofseattle.net/sustainablebuilding/Leeds/default.htm>
- <http://www.cityofseattle.net/sustainablebuilding/SBpolicy.htm>

Contains LEED tools, sample RFP and contract language, and other useful resources

Colorado Resources

USGBC Colorado Chapter (www.usgbc.org/chapters/colorado)

Colorado Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation (<http://www.state.co.us/oemc/>)

Institute for the Built Environment at Colorado State University (www.ibe.colostate.edu)

A multidisciplinary research institute whose mission is to foster stewardship and sustainability of the built environment; includes direct ties to both CSU programs noted below

Colorado State University Construction Management Applied Research Center (CMARC)
(<http://cmarc.colostate.edu/Index.htm>)

A Green Building Certificate Program and graduate degree programs in construction management, including an optional emphasis on sustainable building

Colorado Renewable Energy Society - CRES (www.cres-energy.org)

Conference, meetings, and newsletter focused on renewable energy

Colorado Straw Bale Association - COSBA (www.coloradostrawbale.org)

American Solar Energy Society - ASES (www.ases.org)

Solar Today Magazine, annual conference, and more; encompassing both active and passive solar as well as related renewable energy and sustainable building projects, trends, etc.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory (www.nrel.gov)

Building energy analysis, technology assessment, renewable energy systems, and more

Rocky Mountain Institute (www.rmi.org)

Sustainable design and green building information and related services

The Farmhouse Project (<http://thefarmhouse.org/>)

A U. S. Department of Agriculture sponsored green building project in Boulder highlighting the use of bio-based and recovered materials along with energy-efficient design and features; a downloadable video highlighting products, materials, technologies, and strategies, and including a list of specific vendors will be available from this site by mid 2004

Rebuild Colorado

<http://www.colorado.gov/rebuildco/services/highperformance/index.htm>

Sustainable Colorado

<http://www.sustainablecolorado.org/Links/links.html>

Smart Growth Colorado's Future

<http://www.state.co.us/smartgrowth/>

Boulder Energy Conservation Center

<http://bcn.boulder.co.us/environment/becc/>

Colorado Sustainable Resource Guide

http://bcn.boulder.co.us/environment/becc/becc_sustainableresourceguide.html

Aspen Community Office for Resource Efficiency

<http://www.aspencore.org/>

Denver AIA Committee on the Environment

<http://www.aiacolorado.org/SDRG/index.html>