What is a GREEN BUILDING?

Green building (also known as green construction or sustainable building) refers to a holistic process of building design, construction, and operation that is environmentally responsible, resource efficient, and healthy for occupants and users. Green buildings are designed to reduce the overall impact of the built environment on human health and the natural environment throughout the building's lifecycle.

What is

LEED, or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, is an internationally-recognized green building certification system. Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED provides building owners and operators with a framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions. LEED promotes sustainable building and development practices through a suite of rating systems flexible enough to apply to all building types – commercial as well as residential.



Missouri Department of Natural Resources

This project funded in part by a grant from Solid Waste District O and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Recycled materials used at the WATERSHED CENTER

Cabinetry. Medium-density fiberboard (MDF) wood is used in the cabinetry and the wall panels. MDF is an engineered wood product that can be made of re-used wood or other fibers.

Carpet. Many carpets on the market today include recycled plastic. Green carpets use recycled and eco-friendly materials that minimize indoor air pollution, making them both a responsible and healthy flooring choice.

Roof. The metal (exterior roof) is both recyclable and recycled. On average, most metal has 90 to 95% recycled content. For efficiency, the roof also has rigid insulation panels with a 10% preconsumer recycled content.

Composite Decking. Used on the Watershed Center entranceway and fishing piers, composite decking is usually made with recycled plastic and re-used "waste" materials like sawdust or rice hulls.

Permeable Pavers. These provide a durable, attractive paving option that reduces stormwater runoff by allowing water to soak into the block and through the cracks between the blocks. Pervious surfaces can also delay peak discharges and improve water quality.

Windows. The windows in the building are very efficient, with insulated glazing designed to reflect unwanted heat.

Steel. This building material is strong, versatile, and totally recyclable—in fact, the steel in this project has a 100% recycled content!

Walls. Interior walls contain fiberglass insulation with 35% post-consumer recycled content. The cement blocks used for the walls of the bathroom structure have a 54% pre-consumer recycled content.

Concrete. Made largely from limestone quarried and manufactured locally, concrete cuts down on the cost and energy required for building material transportation. It is durable and long lasting, but it can also be recycled.





WATERSHED

Green features of the Watershed Center and practical tips you can apply at home or at work.

