

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q What is a home energy rating?

A Home Energy Rating Systems provide a standardized evaluation of a home's energy efficiency and expected energy costs. A home energy rating can qualify a home owner or home buyer for an energy efficient mortgage (EEM) or an energy improvement mortgage (EIM). An energy rating can maximize the value of the largest single investment most home owners are likely to make in their entire lifetime.

Q What is the Green Building Certification Institute?

A The Green Building Certification Institute is a newly incorporated entity established with the support of the U.S. Green Building Council to administer credentialing programs related to green building practice and standards. The Green Building Certification Institute oversees the development and delivery of the LEED Professional Accreditation Exam, and serves as a resource for the building industry providing access to tools, directories and information.

Q What is LEED?

A The LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is a voluntary, consensus-based standard to support and certify successful green building design, construction and operations. LEED is transforming the marketplace by providing a nationally recognized certification system to promote integrated, whole-building design practices in the building industry.

Q What building types can be green?

A Any type of building has the potential to become a green or sustainable building, however every building type has different design and efficiency needs depending on its particular function. New buildings may be designed, built and operated to be green buildings. Existing building can also become green through remodeling, retrofitting and improved operations.

Q Which rating system should I use?

A The introductory section of each LEED Rating System provides general guidance for what application is best for that particular rating system. It is possible that your project might be eligible for Certification under more than one rating system. Please review the checklists for each rating system. You can download the checklists from each rating system's page. In order to earn LEED certification, a project must meet all prerequisites and earn the minimum number of LEED credits/points listed on the checklist. Compare your project's projected credit achievement for each applicable rating system. For additional details on the rating system of interest, please go to www.usgbc.org/leed.

Q Where can I find USGBC collateral materials?

A USGBC collateral materials, including Project Profiles, PowerPoint Presentations and brochures, are available for download on the USGBC Resources page.

Q How do I purchase a LEED Reference Guide?

A Please visit the LEED Reference Documents page on usgbc.org for product descriptions and to place an order online. A USGBC Web site user account is required to place an order.

Q Where can I find more information on tax incentives and government initiatives for my LEED Certified building?

A For information on state and local initiatives, please go to the LEED Government Resources page.

THE "GREEN SCENE"



As a leader in the building products distribution industry, Bradco Supply is dedicated to supporting environmentally conscious, or "Green," building practices.

As homeowners, building owners and municipalities become more environmentally conscious, building professionals are more likely to be asked about high performance green buildings and adhering to green building guidelines. In the absence of national consensus on what green means, several organizations are clearly leading the charge. Probably the best way to define green is by gauging whether or not the project meets criteria established by key national certification programs, like LEED® and the NAHB Model Green Home Program. Both of these certification programs use the same environmentally friendly attributes to rate projects.

We all may be greener than we think!

Many of the products that you currently buy are already green. Metal roofing, composite decking, engineered lumber, low-e windows and fiber cement siding all have green attributes. Our industry has been stressing things like low maintenance, longevity and energy efficiency for some time now, not necessarily because of their green attributes, but because of financial rationalization. Everyone wants products that are easier to take care of, are going to last longer and are going to save them money. Energy-efficient products that offer less maintenance and lower operating costs will save money in the long run and reduce the environmental impact.

The best choice for all your building needs!
www.bradcosupply.com



DISTRIBUTOR OF BUILDING MATERIALS

What is Green Building?

Green building is the practice of increasing the efficiency with which buildings use resources (energy, water and materials) while reducing building impacts on human health and the environment through better siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance, and removal – the complete building life cycle.

Features & Benefits of Green Building

A green building, also known as a sustainable building, is a structure that is designed, built, renovated, operated, or reused in an ecological and resource-efficient manner. Green buildings are designed to meet certain objectives such as protecting occupant health, improving employee productivity, using energy, water, and other resources more efficiently; and reducing the overall impact to the environment.



Environmental Benefits:

- Improve air and water quality.
- Reduce solid waste.
- Conserve natural resources.

Economic Benefits:

- Reduce operating costs.
- Enhance asset value and profits.
- Improve employee productivity and satisfaction.

Health and Community Benefits:

- Improve air, thermal and acoustic environments.
- Enhance occupant comfort and health.
- Contribute to overall quality of life.

Green Industry Trends

- The residential green building market is expected to be worth over \$20 billion in 2008.
- In 5 years, the market is expected to double to 12%-20% market share or \$40 billion to \$70 billion.
- 40% of builders think green building helps them market their homes in a down market.

Market Opportunity

Sensitivity to escalating fuel costs, global warming and other environmental concerns combined with federal and state tax incentives are setting the stage for green building practices to become mainstream. Undoubtedly building and remodeling green is the low-hanging fruit of the environmental movement.

The National Association of Home Builders says more builders are hopping on the green building bandwagon every month: A recent NAHB survey found that by the end of next year, half of its members will employ some form of green construction in their homes.

The remodel market is also a great opportunity for green. The inventory of existing homes is exponentially larger than the new construction market and the act of remodeling a home is greener than building new, simply because fewer resources are used.

There may never be a better time to get into green building than right now, particularly as a way to hedge your business against the slowing housing market.

Now is a great time to capitalize on your role as an industry innovator to attract new business opportunities.

And finally, many builders who have been on the cutting edge of the green building movement are reporting that even in a declining housing market, they remain busy.



Green products available through Bradco Supply

Projects are rated green by certification programs, and building products can help an entire project achieve a green rating. Again, the two most popular certification systems are LEED and NAHB Model Green Home Program. Both use the same basic categories of rating criteria:

Energy Efficiency – Products that conserve energy.

- Products that reduce heating or cooling loads.
- Equipment that conserves energy.

Some products that may help gain certification in this area would be:

- Cool roof membranes.
- Cool metal roofing.
- Roof shingles with reflective granules.
- Vegetative roofing.
- Photovoltaic roofing.
- Solar hot water systems.
- High performance house wraps, underlayments and insulation.
- Siding with enhanced insulation values.
- Energy efficient doors and windows.
- Ventilation products.

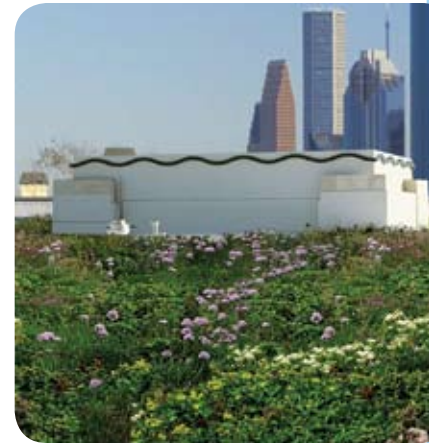


Materials and Resources – Products that conserve natural resources or reduce environmental impact.

- Products that reduce material usage and reduce waste that goes into landfills.
- Products that have exceptional durability or low-maintenance attributes.
- Certified wood products.
- Rapidly renewable products.
- Products made with salvaged, recycled or agricultural waste content.

Some products that may help gain certification in this area would be:

- Building materials with a high recycled content.
- Metal roofing and siding.
- Fiber cement siding.
- Composite decking.
- Other highly durable materials with extended life cycles.



Indoor Environment/Air Quality

- Products that avoid toxic (and other) emissions often referred to as indoor gassing.
- Products that block the development and spread of indoor contaminants such as mold and mildew.

Some products that may help gain certification in this area would be:

- Low VOC adhesive and coatings.
- Products that block the spread of mold and mildew.

Water Conservation – Products that save water.

- Products that help conserve water.
- Products that minimize the use of water in their manufacturing process.

Innovation and Design – The overall design of a project that reduces environmental impact.

- Daylighting techniques that use windows and reflective surfaces to create internal illumination.

