

LEED & Green Building

The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ is a rating system for commercial buildings similar to the one developed by The Green Building Program for residential buildings. LEED standards are currently available for:

New construction and major renovation projects ([LEED 2.1](#))

Existing building operations (LEED-EB, Pilot version)

Commercial interiors projects (LEED-CI, Pilot version)

LEED is based on widely accepted energy and environmental principles and strikes a good balance between known effective practices and emerging concepts. Participation in LEED is voluntary; however, in June 2000, the Austin City Council passed a resolution requiring all future City buildings be built to meet or exceed the LEED silver rating. The LEED rating system covers six areas: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Innovation and Design Practices. LEED provides a checklist for each category and projects receive points based on which choices are implemented.

There are four levels of LEED certification -

Certified: 26 - 32 points

Silver Level: 33 - 38 points

Gold Level: 39 - 51 points

Platinum Level: 52+ points (69 possible)

Who Developed LEED?

Like [The Natural Step](#), LEED is a consensus-based standard. It was developed by members of the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), which is made up of representatives from all segments of the building industry. The USGBC began developing the LEED rating system in 1995 in response to the U.S. market's demand for a standardized definition of "green building." Other rating systems such as BREEAM and BEPAC (European and Canadian systems) existed at that time and were reviewed before work on LEED began. The rating system provides a framework to help move the U.S. building industry to more sustainable practices. It responds to the U.S. marketplace and addresses budgetary and environmental concerns of today's design practices. LEED 1.0 was a pilot version launched in December 1998. LEED 2.0 was released in March 2000. The goals of the LEED system are to:

define "green building" by establishing a common standard of measurement

promote integrated, whole-building design practices

recognize environmental leadership in the building industry

stimulate green competition

raise consumer awareness of green building benefits

transform the building market

Why is LEED Important?

Its whole-building approach encourages and guides a collaborative, integrated design and construction process.

It optimizes environmental and economic factors.

It provides a complete framework for assessing building performance and meeting sustainability goals. It is based on well-founded scientific standards and emphasizes state of the art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. It recognizes achievements and promotes expertise in green building through a comprehensive system offering project certification, professional accreditation, training and practical resources.

What is LEED Accreditation?

Building industry professionals earn accreditation by successfully demonstrating their knowledge of integrated design and their capacity to facilitate the LEED certification process. They do this by passing the LEED Professional Accreditation™ exam. The exam tests an individual's understanding of green building practices and principles, and familiarity with LEED requirements, resources and processes. The LEED accreditation program recognizes expertise in green building design practices and the LEED Green Building Rating System™.

Why Become LEED Accredited?

LEED Accredited Professionals are recognized on the USGBC web site and their names are listed in the online Accredited Professional Directory that enables consumers and local governments to identify and contact qualified professionals. Accreditation is also worth one point toward LEED Certification of their projects.

What is the Green Building Program Doing with LEED?

In the Green Building Program, [Maureen Scanlon, PE](#), [Liana Kallikova, PhD](#), and [Lee Gros, AIA](#), are all LEED Accredited Professionals. [Katie Jensen](#) is looking into taking the test as well and [Shirley Muns](#) has had some LEED training but has not taken the accreditation test.

The Green Building Program's LEED Accredited Professionals can help you by:

Providing training to your team on what LEED is all about

Providing in-depth knowledge on the various LEED credits

Providing a LEED Accredited Professional on the design team

Download [LEED Version 2.1 Rating System](#)

GBP Staff Welcomes Liana Kallivoka and Sarah Row

The Green Building Program staff now includes Liana Kallivoka, PhD, and Sarah Row. Liana is coming on as a full-time permanent staff member. She will work closely with the Commercial Program and one of her first projects will be to assist in the update of the Commercial Rating Tool.

Liana holds a B.Arch. from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece; a M.Sc. and a Ph.D. from the School of Architecture at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA; and is a LEED Accredited Professional™. Liana was raised in Greece, where her inherent passion for architecture was reinforced by her upbringing in a family of builders and developers. After finishing her undergraduate studies in Greece, her strong interest in energy conservation and building performance issues brought her to the U.S. for advanced studies. She has been practicing architecture in the U.S. since 1994.

As both a practicing architect and a researcher, Liana has worked on projects that required quality built environments while preserving natural resources. Her primary focus is on cost effective strategies that lead to energy efficient and sustainable buildings and enhance the occupants' well-being and productivity. Several of the projects she participated in have gained national and international recognition for implementing advances in environmental sustainability, individual comfort and productivity, and technological adaptability.

Sarah joins the GBP as a part-time intern this summer. Sarah studied architecture as an undergraduate at the University of Virginia and graduated from UT Austin with a Masters of Architecture in December 2002. While at UT, she helped design and build the school's entry for the 2002 Solar Decathlon, a national competition among Universities to design, build, and operate solar-powered home/offices. Sarah is updating the Sustainable Building Sourcebook and other publications, getting them ready for electronic publication and distribution.



Sarah Row (l) and Liana Kallivoka join the Green Building Program

Member Bulletin Board

Welcome New and Provisional Green Building Program Members

The Green Building Program would like to welcome new and provisional members who attended the June Basics seminar.

Company Name	Contact Name	Phone Number
Austin Carpenter's Coop	Steve Rabourn	(512) 452-2646
Bercy Chen Studios	Calvin Chen	(512) 481-0092
Callan Construction	David Callan	(512) 426-5312
Carter Design Associates	Donna Carter	(512) 476-1812
Consort, Inc	Ben DeBellis	(512) 469-0500
Croslin	Steve Meyers	(512) 328-9551
Danze & Davis	Kristen Meredith	(512) 343-0714
Ellen Hunt Architect	Ellen Hunt	(512) 347-7098
Fitzpatrick Architects	John Fitzpatrick	(512) 306-9709
Fromberg Associates Architecture	Matthew Agee	(512) 495-9171
Heimsath Architects	Libby Weedman	(512) 478-1621
I & I Revivify	Casey Wink Miller	(512) 371-7981
Jana Cates Interiors	Jana Cates	(512) 689-4333
KRDB	Christy Seals	(512) 374-0946
Longhorn Construction	Lance Dean or Jonathan Dailey	(512) 658-4985
McCullough Heating and Cooling	Al D'Andrea	(512)280-0011
Parshall + Associates Architects	Ruth Parshall	(512) 477-1696
Powell Development	Raye Johnson	(512) 918-9118
Richard Hughes Design	Richard Hughes	(512) 416-6968
Ryan Street & Associates	Tony Salis	(512) 306-9002
Shefelman & Nix Architects	Jim Nix	(512) 474-6262
Sol Architecture	Alex Robinette	(512) 479-4185
The Nix Group	Jim Nix	(512) 474-6262
Triad Building Maintenance	Adrian Neely	(512) 385-1189

Green By Design

Get your clients on board! Let them know that our next [Green By Design Workshop](#) will be July 19, 2003.

Austin to Host NAHB Conference

Austin has been selected as the site for the March 2004 [National Association of Home Builders \(NAHB\)](#) Green Building Conference. One event included in the conference will be a tour of local sustainable community building sites.

Congratulations to Casa Verde

Of 849 programs up for competitive funding, [Casa Verde](#) has been chosen as one of only 41 programs that will continue to receive AmeriCorps funding. Even with this continued funding, Casa Verde will have to tighten its belt and will be reducing the number of members by 25% this year. Casa Verde creates learning opportunities for at-risk youth and better living communities in East Austin. Read the [Casa Verde Case Study](#) (pdf file).

Energy Star Home Incentives

Cash incentives are being offered to companies who build Energy Star homes for low income clientele. Anyone who builds in Austin, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth or El Paso may apply. For more information, contact Eric Stern at 214-540-7774 or estern@icfconsulting.com

New Habitat Re-Store in Austin

[Habitat for Humanity](#) now has two local stores: one in east Austin at 310 Comal and a new one at 7434 North Lamar, ½ mile south of Hwy 183.