



Berkeley Climate Action Plan: Tracking our Progress

Building Energy Use – Green Building and Energy Performance Certification



Goal: Make green building business as usual in the new construction and remodel market

Performance metric: Increased adoption of green building and energy performance standards, such as ENERGY STAR, GreenPoint Rated, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), and Enterprise Green Communities.

Target: Increase the number of buildings in Berkeley that are built, renovated, or operated to attain national or regional green building or energy performance standards. These voluntary certification programs demonstrate committed action toward building high-quality, durable, resource-efficient, transit-oriented buildings.

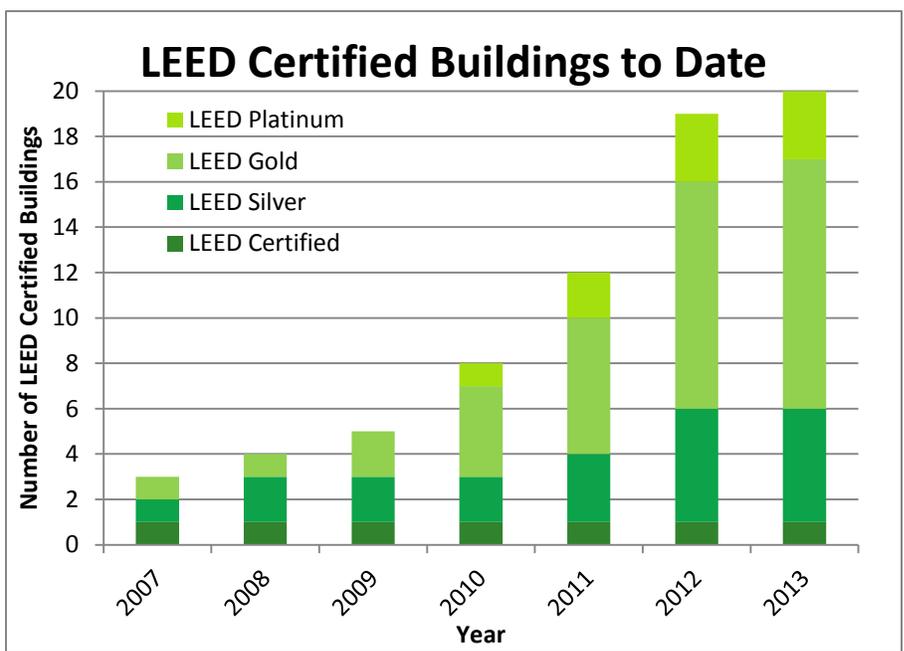
Green building certification programs provide a set of principles and criteria designed to guide, promote, and recognize green construction and operation. The principles of green building include community design, energy efficiency, water efficiency, resource conservation, and indoor environmental quality. Specific criteria associated with these principles must be met for a building to be certified as “green.”

Energy performance standards, such as ENERGY STAR Certified Buildings, benchmark actual energy consumption in comparison to other similar buildings and award buildings with strong energy performance.

Status: The City of Berkeley’s [Best Builders Program](#) promotes green building practices through voluntary green building consultations as well as green building checklists and energy efficiency analysis for qualifying projects. In order to help remove potential barriers to green building practices, the City has worked to align applicable zoning and permitting requirements and has created a variety of [green building permit guides](#) on issues such as rainwater harvesting, solar, and green roofs. The City encourages green building certification and has a [policy requiring LEED certification](#), at the Silver level or above, for City-sponsored construction projects of 5,000 square feet or more.

LEED is just one of the green certifications that buildings within Berkeley have been awarded. As of the end of 2013, 20 buildings in Berkeley are LEED certified, 8 are GreenPoint Rated, 2 projects were built as Enterprise Green Communities Developments, and 13 have been recognized as ENERGY STAR Certified. Within the last three years the number of LEED buildings more than doubled (from 9 buildings in 2010 to 20 in 2013).

[Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design \(LEED\)](#), developed by the U.S. Green Building Council, is currently the most widely recognized green building rating and certification system in the United States. In order to achieve LEED certification, buildings must meet prerequisites and optional credits over several environmental categories. LEED offers building certifications at four progressively distinguished levels (Certified, Silver, Gold, and Platinum) for many types of buildings including commercial, institutional, schools, retail, healthcare, homes, and multi-building neighborhood developments.



LEED Certified Buildings

Berkeley Hills Fire Station - *LEED Certified*
Berkeley Law - Step 3 Interiors - *LEED Silver*
Berkeley City College - *LEED Silver*
Berkeley Early Childhood Education Ctr. - *LEED Silver*
Durant Hall - *LEED Silver*
Peets - College and Alcatraz - *LEED Silver*
Davis Energy Group Dan Dunaway & Associates - *LEED Gold*
LBNL Advanced Light Source User Support - *LEED Gold*
UC Berkeley - Boalt Hall-South Addition - *LEED Gold*
centro1331 - *LEED Gold*
Annies - *LEED Gold*
Clark Kerr Campus Renewal - *LEED Gold*
Clark Kerr Campus Renewal (Phase 2) - *LEED Gold*
Downtown Berkeley YMCA - *LEED Gold*
LJ Kruse Interior Renovation - *LEED Gold*
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory Mo - *LEED Gold*
David Brower Center - *LEED Platinum*
Berkeley YMCA Teen Center - *LEED Platinum*
Davis Energy Group Affordable Housing Associates - *LEED Platinum*
Pat Brown's Grill - *LEED Gold*

The 24 LEED certified buildings in Berkeley include 3 buildings that achieved the top-tier LEED Platinum designation (The David Brower Center, the YMCA Teen Center, and Davis Energy Group Affordable Housing Associates). An additional 43 Berkeley buildings are currently registered with LEED to pursue certification.

[GreenPoint Rated](#), administered by the Oakland-based nonprofit Build It Green, is a California green certification system for new and existing housing. GreenPoint Rated homes must achieve points across five environmental categories (energy efficiency, resource conservation, indoor air quality, water conservation, and community) during building or remodeling to be awarded the GreenPoint Rated designation.

GreenPoint Rated Homes

2398 Bancroft Way
700 University Ave
New Californian (1950 Martin Luther King Jr. Way)
Oxford Plaza
Seventh Haven Homes
Von Der Hude Residence
Ada Street Residence
Women's Resource Center

As of November 2011, three single family homes and three multifamily housing projects in Berkeley earned the GreenPoint Rated label following their new construction. Two existing homes and one new multifamily project are currently in process to become GreenPoint Rated.

Enterprise Community Partners, a national nonprofit dedicated to affordable housing and sustainable communities, has recently developed a green building standard. [Enterprise Green Communities Criteria](#) is a framework, aligned with LEED, that offers green certification for affordable single family and low-, mid- and high-rise multifamily housing at the time of new construction, moderate rehab, and substantial/gut rehab. Two multifamily Berkeley projects, Ashby Lofts and Oxford Plaza, received grants from Enterprise to be built as Green Communities Developments (prior to the development of the Enterprise Green Communities Criteria).

Case studies are available for the following green certified buildings in Berkeley:

[Berkeley City College](#)
[Oxford Plaza](#)
[Seventh Haven Homes](#)

In addition to the above green building certification programs, several Berkeley buildings have been recognized as [ENERGY](#)

ENERGY STAR Certified Buildings (Year of Certification)

Berkeley Arts Magnet at Whittier (2010)
Cragmont Elementary (2010)
Emerson Elementary (2010)
Jefferson Elementary (2010)
LBNL Building 69 (2001)
LeConte Elementary (2010)
Malcolm X Elementary (2010)
Oxford Elementary (2010)
Rosa Parks Elementary (2009)
Washington Elementary (2009)
Zaentz Media Center (2012)
Staples Store on Shattuck (2012)
Bancroft Hotel (2012)

[STAR Certified](#) buildings. This ENERGY STAR program, primarily for the commercial building sector, allows building owners to track the energy consumption of their buildings through ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and offers ENERGY STAR certifications (or labels) to buildings that perform in the top 25% as compared to other buildings of the same type (i.e. office space, hotel, etc.) nationwide. Thirteen buildings in Berkeley have met the performance requirements and have taken steps to become ENERGY STAR Certified Buildings for at least one year.

Why is this metric important?

Buildings are a significant contributor to our community-wide GHG emissions; according to the City of Berkeley's 2005 inventory of community-wide GHG emissions, electricity and natural gas consumption in our homes, businesses, and institutions resulted in over half of community-wide emissions. Taking action to lower the energy use and other environmental impacts of buildings, such as those required to meet green building and energy performance standards, lower GHG emissions. In addition, green buildings conserve resources,

save money on energy and water bills, provide a more comfortable and healthy environment for occupants, and add value in the marketplace.

Resources and assistance for community members

U.S. Green Building Council (www.usgbc.org) developed LEED and offers a variety of resources to support green buildings.

Build It Green (www.builditgreen.org) supports the development and promotion of green homes in California including its administration of GreenPoint Rated.

Enterprise Community Partners (www.enterprisecommunity.org) provides expertise for affordable housing and sustainable communities. One of their initiatives is Enterprise Green Communities.

ENERGY STAR (www.energystar.gov), a joint program of the U.S. EPA and the U.S. DOE, promotes energy efficient products and practices by offering a variety of services including ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and ENERGY STAR Certification of buildings.

Data sources and technical notes: Data provided by the U.S. Green Building Council, Build It Green, Enterprise Community Partners, and ENERGY STAR.

Tracking our progress: Review Climate Action Plan performance metrics at www.cityofberkeley.info/climate