

From Tragedy to Triumph—Resources for Rebuilding Green after Disaster

These resources offer builders and architects information about building healthier, more comfortable, and more energy-efficient homes, businesses, and public buildings.

Financial Incentives

Numerous financial incentives, such as federal and state tax credits and utility rebates, are available to help offset the cost of a renewable energy system. Many utility companies also offer net metering for renewable energy systems that are connected to the grid. And the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act*, signed into law on February 17, 2009, contains provisions that will financially benefit individuals, businesses, organizations, and the renewable energy industry as a whole.

For more information about financial incentives, visit the Database of State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency at www.dsireusa.org.

Commercial Building Energy Alliances

Partner members of these U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) alliances help guide research and encourage industry to move toward energy-efficient design and strategies in commercial buildings

www.buildings.energy.gov/commercial_initiative/alliances.html

Retailer Energy Alliance

www.buildings.energy.gov/retailer/



Bill Timmerman, NREL/PIX 14963

The National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Science & Technology facility is designed to encompass advanced energy efficiency and "green building" concepts in systems such as lighting and HVAC.

Rebuilding a business or home after a natural disaster such as a flood, hurricane, or tornado can be daunting. These resources can help you turn tragedy into opportunity by rebuilding with energy efficiency and renewable energy to create healthier buildings and homes.

Hospital Energy Alliance

www.buildings.energy.gov/hospital/

Commercial Real Estate Energy Alliance

www.buildings.energy.gov/real_estate/

Energy Efficiency Resources

Energy Savers

Basic information about energy efficiency and renewable energy from DOE

www.energysavers.gov

ENERGY STAR®

This program of DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) helps building owners save energy and money through energy-efficient products and practices

www.energystar.gov

Commercial Buildings Energy Efficiency Practices

Guidelines from DOE for each step of the design and building process

www.buildings.energy.gov/commercial/index.html

EnergySmart Schools

Guidelines for building green schools from DOE

www.buildings.energy.gov/energysmartschools

Green Guides and Case Studies

Green Building

Provides general information about green buildings along with case studies from EPA

www.epa.gov/greenbuilding/

Green Building Case Studies

A database of green commercial buildings from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

www.usgbc.org/LEED/Project/CertifiedProjectList.aspx

Green Home Building Guidelines

Guidelines for building green homes from the National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB)

www.nahbgreen.org/Guidelines/nahbguidelines.aspx

Green Schools Guide

Guidelines for building green schools from USGBC

www.buildgreenschools.org/

Greensburg Sustainable Buildings Database

Case studies of green commercial buildings and homes in Greensburg, Kansas

<http://greensburg.buildinggreen.com>

High-Performance Buildings Database

Information from DOE about more than 100 high-performance buildings

<http://eere.buildinggreen.com/>

Remodeling Green Guidelines

A publication about remodeling an existing home to make it green

www.greenhomeguide.org/documents/regreen_guidelines.pdf

Top Ten Green Buildings

The American Institute of Architects gives annual awards for the top ten green buildings.

www.aiaopten.org/hpb/

Renewable Energy Resources

A Homebuilder's Guide to Going Solar

This publication helps builders assess the benefits of installing solar equipment or making houses "solar ready" to both their businesses and customers.

www.solar.energy.gov/pdfs/44792.pdf

Own Your Power! A Consumer Guide to Solar Electricity for the Home

Information about solar energy systems, financial incentives, and warranties and insurance along with tips for success

www.nrel.gov/docs/fy09osti/43844.pdf

Small Wind Electric Systems

A consumer's guide with information about small wind energy systems for rural areas, including maintenance and zoning issues

www.windpoweringamerica.gov/pdfs/small_wind/small_wind_guide.pdf

Geoexchange

A Web site from the Geothermal Heat Pump Consortium that presents information about geothermal heating and cooling

www.geoexchange.org



The atrium at the Adam Joseph Lewis Center for Environmental Studies in Oberlin, Ohio, features low-e glaze windows that hold in heat during winter and keep heat out in the summer.



Cheryl Unger, NREL/PIX 15625

This ENERGY STAR® home in Colorado uses at least 15% less energy than a typical home built to code and features a solar PV system.

Organizations and Associations

Alliance to Save Energy

Information about energy efficiency, including building green schools and commercial buildings

www.ase.org

American Architectural Manufacturers Association

Includes information and news about building green in its green building section

www.aamanet.org/general.asp?sect=1&id=315

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE)

ACEEE has energy efficiency information for both residential and commercial buildings

www.aceee.org/Consumer/index.htm
www.aceee.org/buildings/commercial.htm

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers

Information about the latest standards for green buildings

www.ashrae.org

American Solar Energy Society

Information about using solar for green homes

www.ases.org

American Wind Energy Association

Information on wind energy projects and technology and policy development

www.awea.org

BuildingGreen.com

Information about green buildings including books on green products

www.buildinggreen.com/

Build It Green

A nonprofit organization dedicated to energy and resource efficient building in California

www.builditgreen.org

Common Fire Foundation

A nonprofit organization dedicated to teaching others about green building

www.commonfire.org/

Cool Roof Rating Council

Provides an independent rating system for cool roofs used in green buildings

www.coolroofs.org

Energy & Environmental Building Alliance

Offers educational classes and information about green buildings

www.eeba.org

Green Building Resource Center

Free design advice and information about environmentally friendly products and strategies

www.globalgreen.org/gbrc

Green Concepts

Information about environmentally friendly products and green building

www.greenconcepts.com

Geothermal Energy Association

Geothermal resource maps and listing of U.S. geothermal plants by state

www.geo-energy.org

Home Ventilating Institute

Information about ventilation systems for home and businesses

www.hvi.org

Indoor Air Quality Association

A nonprofit organization dedicated to improving indoor air quality

www.iaqa.org

National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

NAHB Green www.nahbgreen.org and the NAHB Research Center www.nahbrc.org provide resources and information to builders about green homes and products.



The new high school in Greensburg, Kansas, is being built using green strategies such as the use of daylighting in the gymnasium to offset artificial lighting loads.

National Resources Defense Council

Information for builders about how green homes and commercial buildings can boost the bottom line

www.nrdc.org/buildinggreen

National Roofing Contractors Association

Trade association for the roofing industry that has an online “Energy Wise” roof calculator

www.nrca.net

New Homes Directory

A national directory of new green homes and communities

www.newhomesdirectory.com/green

National Recycling Coalition, Inc.

Provides waste reduction information for builders

www.nrc-recycle.org

North American Insulation Manufacturers Association

Information about various types of insulation, including fiber glass, rock wool, and slag wool insulation products. Builders can search for green products

www.naima.org

Sustainable Buildings Alliance

International organization dedicated to sustainable development and green buildings

www.sballiance.org/

Sustainable Buildings Industry Council

Provides educational classes and resources for passive solar design

www.SBICouncil.org

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

USGBC has information about green commercial and residential buildings as well as the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating system for commercial buildings www.usgbc.org/. They also have a blog about green buildings

<http://blog.epa.gov/blog/category/greenbuilding>

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy

EERE Information Center
1-877-EERE-INF (1-877-337-3463)
eere.energy.gov/informationcenter

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This document is one in a series of documents outlining the options for and benefits of rebuilding green after a disaster. The series draws on lessons learned by teams from the U.S. Department of Energy and its National Renewable Energy Laboratory as they helped the townspeople of Greensburg, Kansas, rebuild green after a devastating tornado. To see the other documents in this series, visit www.buildings.energy.gov/greensburg/.

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