

Why **BUILD GREEN?** P. 3

Green Buildings provide healthy indoor environments.

The average person spends 90% of their day indoors.

- Introduce more natural daylight into the building
- Increase natural ventilation
- Improve indoor air quality
- Use building materials that contain lower levels of volatile organic compounds (VOC's)
- Improve worker productivity, decrease absenteeism and illness
- Improve learning in schools

Green Buildings use less energy

Buildings use 72% of our nation's electric energy

- Lower operating costs
- Lessen the environmental impact
 - Lowers carbon emissions
 - Lessens pollution
- Utilize renewable/alternative energy sources (wind, solar, geothermal)

Green Buildings Use Materials and Resources more wisely

Construction waste accounts for 40% of solid waste in landfills

- Utilize materials with recycled content
- Using regional materials requires less energy for transportation
- Require recycling of waste during construction
 - 8,000 lbs (4 tons) of waste are typically landfilled during construction of a 2,000 square foot home.
- Provide for recycling within the building
- Use rapidly renewable materials such as agrifiber, bamboo, etc.
- Encourage the adaptive reuse, rather than demolition, of buildings

Green Buildings use Land in a **sustainable** manner

- Encourage the use of previously developed land and urban infill sites
- Encourage alternative transportation (bus, bicycles, low-emitting and fuel efficient vehicles)
- Reduce storm water runoff and enhance storm water quality
- Maximize Open Space and protect and restore native habitat
- Reduce light pollution and maintain a “dark sky”

Green Buildings use **Water Efficiently**

- Interior water use reduction with low water use plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping (Xeriscaping)