



## SUSTAINABLE BUILDING CHECKLIST: COMMERCIAL

### SUSTAINABLE SITES

- 🏠 **Select a Good Site** - Avoid development on sites that are: agricultural; in the 100-year flood plain; subject to landslides, erosion or wildfires; habitat to endangered species; wetlands.
- 🏠 **Redevelop Urban Areas** - Channel development to urban areas with existing infrastructure, protecting greenfields and preserving habitat and natural resources.
- 🏠 **Alternative Transportation** – Locate buildings near transit, provide bicycle amenities and encourage carpooling. Reduce pollution and land development impacts from car use.
- 🏠 **Reduce Site Disturbance** - Conserve existing natural areas and restore damaged areas to provide habitat and biodiversity.
- 🏠 **Manage Storm water** - eliminate storm water runoff, increase on-site infiltration, and reduce contaminants. Minimize impervious surfaces so groundwater can recharge.
- 🏠 **Reduce Heat Islands** by eliminating or shading blacktop paving and dark roof surfaces.
- 🏠 **Reduce Light Pollution** - Eliminate light escape/inefficiency from the building site. Improve night sky visibility.

### WATER EFFICIENCY

- 🏠 **Water Efficient Landscaping** - Minimize the use of potable water for irrigation by using xeriscaping and high efficiency irrigation technologies, including drip irrigation, rainwater capture, graywater, etc.
- 🏠 **Reduce Water Use** - Maximize water efficiency within buildings. Specify water-efficient fixtures and equipment.

### ENERGY AND ATMOSPHERE

- 🏠 **Optimize Energy Performance** through siting, orientation, building form, insulation, glazing, daylighting, and controls. Study performance with energy modeling programs. Design including all parties of the project team from inception.
- 🏠 **Promote Renewable Energy** and minimize reliance on limited fossil fuels by incorporating on-site renewable energy sources such as solar, wind, geothermal and biomass.
- 🏠 **Commission your building** - Verify that the building is designed, constructed, and calibrated to operate as intended with third party quality control assurance.
- 🏠 **Eliminate HCFCs** - Reduce ozone depletion by installing HVAC and refrigeration equipment and fire suppression systems that do not contain HCFCs.

### MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

- 🏠 **Reuse Buildings** - Extend the life cycle of building stock, conserve resources, retain cultural resources, reduce waste, and reduce environmental impact of new buildings.

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🏗️ **Manage Construction Waste** - Divert construction, demolition, and land clearing debris from landfills. Redirect recyclable material back to the manufacturing process.

🏗️ **Reuse Resources** - Specify salvaged or refurbished materials such as wood flooring/paneling/cabinets, doors and frames, mantels, ironwork, decorative light fixtures, brick, masonry.

🏗️ **Use Recycling/Recycled Content** - Provide for occupant recycling of waste. Specify products that contain recycled material.

🏗️ **Specify Regional Materials** - materials that are harvested, extracted and manufactured regionally reduce transportation.

🏗️ **Specify Rapidly Renewable Materials** such as straw, bamboo and some woods.

🏗️ **Use Certified Wood** - Specify wood from certified sustainably managed forests.

### INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

🏗️ **Carbon Dioxide Monitoring/Exhaust** - Install independent system or make a function of building HVAC system.

🏗️ **Assure Ventilation Effectiveness** - Employ architectural and HVAC design strategies to increase ventilation effectiveness and prevent short-circuiting of airflow delivery. Consider underfloor HVAC and operable windows.

🏗️ **Low-VOC Materials** - Specify low-VOC adhesives, sealants, paint, composite wood products and carpet systems.

🏗️ **Control Indoor Chemical and Pollutants** - Install entry grates to capture dirt. Separately ventilate areas of chemical use and storage. Appropriately plumb drains used for liquid waste disposal. Protect ventilation system during construction. Provide flush out prior to occupancy.

🏗️ **Controllability of Systems** - Provide a high level of individual control of thermal, ventilation and lighting systems.

🏗️ **Daylight and Views** - Provide a connection between indoor spaces and outdoor environment through the introduction of sunlight and views in a glare-free way. Consider courtyards, atriums, clerestory windows, skylights, and light shelves.

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