

# What is Green Building?



Green Building is a holistic approach, considering:

- Energy Indoor Environ.
- Water
   Quality
- Materials
- Reducing Auto
   Dependence

- Not a "style" of architecture (eg. Victorian or Modernist)
- Does not necessarily involve green paint
- Rather, Green Building is a philosophy on how to build, rooted in the belief that environmental destruction and health problems are not a necessary outcome of constructing and operating buildings.







## Relationship of Transportation & Neighborhood Density



















# **Energy Strategy**

- 1. Optimize building envelope to reduce demand for energy
- 2. Recycle waste heat flows
- Supply remaining demand for lighting, heating, & cooling with highly efficient electrical & mechanical systems
- 4. Maximize % of energy supply from renewable sources

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- Passive Solar Design
- High levels of insulation
- Daylighting
- Natural ventilation
- Heat exchangers
- Radiant floor heating
- Evaporative cooling
- Daylight sensors for lighting

On-site photovoltaic system
 Off-site renewable energy credits
 Solar hot water



## Some Models for Inspiration...



Clipper Ship: 250 ft. long, 2,300 ton displacement Design cleverly manipulates natural energy flows to propel ships 15-20 knots

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Termite Mound: design uses solar gain, ventilation, & metabolism to maintain temperature range of 85-87 deg. F for fungi and egg production;











# **Super-insulated building envelope**



Effective insulations that minimize <u>both</u> air infiltration & thermal conduction:

- Structural Insulated Panels (SIPs)
- Stabilized cellulose
- Water-based polyurethane foam

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• Plastered straw bale



# **Other Daylighting Aspects**



Stapleton Building - Billings, MT

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## **Research confirms daylighting benefits:**

- 1. 7-18% improvement on student test scores (comparing schools with most daylight vs. those w/ least in study)\*
- 2. 31-49% higher sales per square foot (comparing stores with & without skylight daylighting in study)\*\*
- 3. Office workers with good views particularly vegetation—have 10-25% better memory recall (comparing offices with best views vs. offices without any views in study)\*\*\*

\*<u>Daylighting in Schools</u>, Heschong Mahone Group, 1999 \*\*<u>Skylighting & Retail Sales</u>, Heschong Mahone Group, 1999 \*\*\*<u>Windows & Offices</u>, Heschong Mahone Group, 2003



## Natural ventilation



An effective night ventilation design eliminates need for costly air conditioning.

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## **General rules of thumb:**

- 1. Provide operable windows in all rooms
- 2. If possible, provide windows on two walls for cross ventilation in bedrooms
- 3. Night ventilation strategy: close windows in morning, open at night
- 4. Stack ventilation strategy: provide operable skylight, window, or exhaust fan in high space



# Natural ventilation, continued



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Research regarding operable windows

- 1. 1 11% increase in productivity for occupants who can control ventilation\*
- 2. Increase in comfort zone for occupants who can operate windows\*\*
- 3. 3.2% lower absenteeism in naturally ventilated buildings compared to mechanically ventilated buildings

\*Estimates of Improved Productivity and Health from Better Indoor Environments, Fisk, W.J. & Rosefeld, A.H., 1997 \*\*Developing an Adaptive Model of Thermal Comfort and Preference, de Bear, R., Brager, G., & Cooper, D. 1997 \*\*The Impact of Different Ventilation Levels and Fluorescent Lighting Types on Building Illness, Sterling, E. & Sterling, T. 1983



## **Efficient Mechanical Systems**



## **Energy Strategy:**

- 1. Minimize energy demand with steps 3), 4), and 5)
- 2. Supply remaining energy needs with very efficient systems:
- Radiant floor heating (20% more efficient than air-based system)
- Evaporative cooling (400-500% more efficient in Montana's dry climate)



# Renewable Energy



## **Renewable Strategy:**

- **1**. Design roof for solar orientation
- 2. Optimize mechanical systems for solar hot water heating
- 3. Make provision for both plumbing and electrical conduit to roof
- 4. Take advantage of current incentives for photovoltaic and solar hot water panels



## **Integrated Design Process**

All decisions made about component parts affect the whole; optimize the system, not its parts.



• End Use/Least Cost Planning

- Performance Goals
- Whole Systems
   Design





# **Integrated Design Process**

## **Conventional Approach**

- Building treated as a series of unrelated components
- Architect & Engineers have linear relationship
- Design building to meet prescriptive building codes
- After designed & built, "find out" how much energy it consumes

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## **Green Approach**

- Building treated as a system—components are inter-related (building as ecosystem)
- Architect & Engineers have dialogical relationship
- Develop performance goals before design
- Design building accordingly to meet performance goals





# **Performance Goals**

# Set performance goals *BEFORE* starting design



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## For Example:

- No air conditioning
- 25% more efficient than building codes
- Energy Star® or LEED® certification



## LEED® can provide guidance...



## USGBC

"The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a nonprofit composed of leaders from every sector of the building industry working to promote buildings that are environmentally responsible, profitable and healthy places to live and work."

## LEED

"The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings."







# **Integrated Design Attributes:**



- Focus on demand as well as supply
- Materials and products do double or triple duty
  - Concrete floors
  - Operable windows
  - Low-e glazing
  - Green cleaning products







# Paradigm Shift: Buildings as both Producers & Consumers

## **Distributed Generation Benefits**

- Reduced transmission losses
- More robust (not as vulnerable to disruption)

## Rainwater Collection Benefits

- Reduced energy to pump water uphill
- Match treatment levels to end use

## **On-site Waste Treatment Benefits**

- Eliminate pollution of potable water
- Re-create the nutrient cycle-turn a liability into an asset









The story of a LEED Platinum certified green building



## The Owners...





- Northern Plains Resource Council organizes Montana citizens to protect our water quality, family farms and ranches, and unique quality of life.
- WORC's mission is to advance the vision of a democratic, sustainable, and just society through community action.

## ...wanted to "live their values."

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# The existing building...



- Grocery store built in 1940s
- Uninsulated, nearly windowless
- Large walk-in coolers and freezers
- Derelict eyesore when purchased



# **Integrated Design Process**

## **Performance Goals**

- Demonstration green building
- LEED certification from US Green Building Council
- Work within tight budget











# **Design: Section thru Monitors**



- Perimeter daylighting strategy: light shelves
- Building core daylighting strategy: north-facing clerestory monitors
- Solar panels on south-facing slope of monitor roofs





# **Design: Typical Wall Section**



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## Light Shelf:

 reflects daylight onto ceiling plane on top

• Shades window on bottom for glare-free view



## **Site : Alternative Transportation**



Bicycle Commuters

• Covered bike racks

• Showers

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<u>Auto Commuters</u> • Designated parking for carpools • Hybrid vehicle for organization



## Water : Efficiency Measures



## **Native Planting**

- Drought resistant
- Uses drip irrigation system
- Water use reduced by more than 50%



Waterless Urinal

Name says it all



**Microflush Composting Toilets** 

- 1 pint per flush
- Water trap prevents odors, vectors
- Saves 30,000 gallons per year



## Energy : Efficient Mechanical Systems



Evaporative Cooling • 5x as efficient as refrigeration air conditioning

Ideal in Montana's dry climate

healthier: 100% outside air

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Radiant Heating

approximately 20% more efficient
than air-based heating systems

• more comfortable—no drafts or heat stratification



# **Energy : Renewable Sources**



## **Photovoltaic Panels**

• 9.9 kW system generates 53% of total electricity use (32% of total energy cost-natural gas & electricity)

**Solar Hot Water Panels** 

• estimated to reduce total building energy usage 5-10% (not modeled)



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## **Daylighting: from the Exterior**



**Typical Light Shelf** 

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# **Daylighting: from the Interior**



Office with daylight from Light Shelf



Gallery with daylight from Clerestory Monitor





# Green Building: shifting rather than increasing upfront costs



Conventional Approach	n (Estimates*)	Green Buildin	ng Approach (HOTR Actual)
Property	\$ 182,500	\$ 182,500	Property
Professional Services (10%)	\$ 134,790	\$ 122,000	Professional Services
Demolition	\$ 70,500	\$ 15,000	Deconstruction (partial)
New Construction	\$ 1,156,700	\$ 839,200	Renovation
		\$ 66,200	Alternative Energy Systems
Site	\$ 191,200	\$ 165,700	Site Improvements
-		\$ 12,800	LEED-related costs & fees
OTAL CAPITAL COSTS	\$1,735,690	\$1,403,400	TOTAL CAPITAL COSTS

Capital + Operating Costs*					
	Baseline meeting Model E	Office Building inergy Code**	Home on the Range		
	TOTAL CAPITAL COSTS	\$1,735,190	\$1,403,400		
	\$331,790 capital savings				
Capital +	10 years of Operation Costs	\$1,863,183	\$1,429,813		
	\$331,790 capital savings +	\$ <b>101,580 oper</b> a	ational savings = \$433,370		
Capital +	20 years of Operation Costs	\$2,051,903	\$1,468,912 ational savings = \$582,991		
Capital +	30 years of Operation Costs	\$2,331,256	\$1,526,787		
	\$331,790 capital savings +	\$472,679 opera	ational savings = \$804,469		
* All figures	assume annual 4% energy escalation rate				
**ASHRAE	90.1-1999 modeled using eQuest energy so	ftware			
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## Home on the Range: LEED by the numbers



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## Sustainable Site

- Provides alternative transportation amenities for bicyclists, carpoolers, & a hybrid vehicle
- 100% of stormwater treated on-site
- Minimizes urban heat island effect

### Water Efficiency

- 50% less irrigation water for landscaping
- 90% less wastewater
- 60% less potable water

## Energy & Atmosphere

- 79% less energy used (by value)
- 52% of electricity generated on-site
- 100% of remaining electricity from wind sources for one year



## Home on the Range: LEED by the numbers



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#### Materials & Resources

- 95% of existing building reused
- $\bullet\,$  92% of construction & demolition waste diverted from landfill (by weight)
- 16% of materials were salvaged (by value)
- 10% of materials have recycled content (by value)
- 23% of materials from sources within 500 miles (by value)
- 60% of wood from FSC certified forests

## **Indoor Environmental Quality**

- 100% outside air used to cool building
- · 100% of materials contain no urea formaldehyde
- $\bullet\,$  100% of regularly occupied rooms have high levels of daylight and views outside







# **Klos Building Remodel**



# **Klos Building Remodel**











# **Klos Building Remodel**

Cooling Mode C:

- Evaporative cooling
- Keep ceiling fans on, windows closed
- Rooftop unit dumps cool air in front, and exhaust fans pull it out at rear of office









Crawlspace with collection tanks, booster pump, particulate and UV filters. Sediment catcher in foreground.

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# **Klos Building Remodel**



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Gold or Platinum certification is anticipated.



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# Klos Building Remodel: LEED by the numbers



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### Sustainable Site

- Provides alternative transportation amenities for bicyclists, carpoolers, & a hybrid vehicle
- 100% of stormwater used on-site
- · Development density & community connectivity

## Water Efficiency

• 100% of water from rainwater

#### Energy & Atmosphere

- 66% less energy used than code (by value)
- 28% of electricity generated on-site
- 100% of remaining electricity from wind sources for one year



## Klos Building Remodel: LEED by the numbers



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#### Materials & Resources

- 95% of existing building reused
- 66% of construction & demolition waste diverted from landfill (by weight)
- · 21% of materials were salvaged (by value)
- 11% of materials have recycled content (by value)
- 36% of materials from sources within 500 miles (by value)
- 6% of materials from rapidly renewable sources (by value)

## **Indoor Environmental Quality**

- 100% outside air used to cool building
- · 100% of materials contain no urea formaldehyde
- 100% of regularly occupied rooms have high levels of daylight and views outside



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## **Swift Building Lofts**



Existing first floor

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## **Green Building Measures**

- 1. Superinsulate roof and walls
- 2. Low-E glazing in windows
- 3. Radiant floor heating
- 4. Radiant floor cooling
- 5. Dual flush toilets, 1.6 gpm showerheads
- 6. Rainwater collection
- 7. Solar hot water panels (120 SF of collector area)
- 8. Photovoltaic panels (4 kW array)
- 9. Extensive salvaged doors, trim
- 10.FSC certified wood interior framing



# **Swift Building Lofts**



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# 33% reduction in Potable Water compared to code baseline

- 23% reduction due to fixture <u>efficiency</u>
- 10% reduction due to using rainwater and well water for toilet flushing



## **Costs & Benefits of Green Building**

Cost Shifting	<ul> <li>Applying Integrated Design Process &amp; End Use / Least Cost Planning</li> </ul>
	• No higher upfront cost
Life Cycle	<ul> <li>Using higher quality, more durable materials and higher efficiency mechanical equipment</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Higher upfront cost, but also higher value (ie. lower cost per year of product lifetime or total efficiency savings over life exceeds incremental upfront cost</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>These types of investments may have much higher returns than stock market with lower risk</li> </ul>
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## **Costs & Benefits of Green Building**

Reduced Risks	<ul> <li>Improving Indoor Environmental Quality with non- toxic, healthier materials and better ventilation</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Perhaps minor higher upfront costs, which are offset by reduced liability for sick building syndrome or employee sick time</li> </ul>
Productivity	<ul> <li>Improving Indoor Environmental Quality with daylighting and views</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Potentially higher upfront costs, but savings through improved employee productivity or resident comfort are calculated to exceed all other financial benefits (reduced utilities, O&amp;M, etc.) by more than 2x (Greg Kats, Capital E, 2003)</li> </ul>
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## **Costs & Benefits of Green Building**

Internalizing Externalities

- Benefits are not directly realized by owner
- Big Picture, influenced by public policy
- Benefits to society include:
  - 1. Avoided environmental remediation costs (mine reclamation, Superfund toxic cleanups, loss of wildlife due to pollution)
  - 2. Avoided medical expenses (asthma, cancer, etc.)



## **Costs & Benefits of Green Building**

Internalizing Externalities

- Benefits to society, continued:
  - 3. Avoided global climate change costs (levees, forest fires, drought relief, flood insurance, etc.)
  - 4. Avoided political and financial costs of securing foreign energy sources (eg. War in Iraq)

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## **Energy & Water Relationship**

- Electricity use in California:
  - California consumes about 250 Billion kWh/yr
    - Up to 50 Billion kWh/yr is related to water
- Thus, water-related energy use is about 20% of total electric consumption in California

Source: Southern California Edison



# **Energy & Water Relationship**

## How is Energy Used with Water?

- **1.** Increase Water Quality
- 2. Increase Elevation or Pressure (potential energy)
- 3. Increase Water **Temperature**

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# **Energy for Water Treatment**

Water treated by U.S. public water systems each day: 43 billion gallons Source: US EPA

**Electricity to treat** public water & sewage each day: 153,425 kilowatt-hours (kWh) Source: US EPA

Thus, 3.56 watt-hours (Wh) are required for each gallon of water



3.5 gallons / flush

1.2 gallons / flush





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45 sec.

## **Energy for Water Treatment**

# Strategies for reducing water treatment energy:

- **1.** Use less water through efficiency & conservation
- 2. Match water quality to end use

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## **Energy for Pumping**



The greater the elevation difference, the more pump energy required

- Municipal
- Well

# Strategies for reducing pumping water:

- **1.** Use less water through efficiency & conservation
- 2. Use rainwater & greywater



## **Energy for Water Heating**

# Strategies for reducing water heating energy:

- **1**. Use less hot water through efficiency & conservation
- 2. Use high efficiency water heaters and boilers (+90%)
- 3. Solar hot water panels

