

# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

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## **U.S. & China to collaborate on sustainability**

*Greener Buildings - July 20*

The U.S. and China agreed upon a research partnership to develop energy efficient buildings and technologies. The partnership between the [U.S. Department of Energy](#) and the Chinese Ministry of Urban-Rural Development will establish a joint research center focused on low-carbon technologies for green buildings, clean cars and carbon sequestration. In the next 15 years, China expects to build the equivalent of the entire U.S. building stock. The joint venture calls for the development of more efficient buildings; an exchange of experts; an analysis of existing green buildings; and a joint sustainable building project in China.

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## **Green Building Focus**

### [Online LEED product guide](#)

*Lafarge - July 27*

Lafarge North America launched an online guide to products that meet the LEED rating system. Each listing includes a description of the product and what LEED credit categories may apply.

### [Report: Living Building Challenge](#)

*Cascadia Region Green Building Council (CRGBC) - July 27*

Based on current research, The Living Building Challenge (LBC) strives for the highest measure of sustainability in the built environment. This report explores the prerequisites of six LBC sections (site, energy, materials, water, indoor quality and beauty and inspiration).

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## **Santa Monica's new sustainability Website**

*surfsantamonica.com - July 20*

Santa Monica's new website [sustainable-sm.org](http://sustainable-sm.org) offers information on the city's [Green Building Program](#), Buying Green, Energy/Solar, Water, Landscape, Urban Runoff, Hazardous Materials, Environmental Education, Business Resources, etc.

Similar article: [Santa Clarita launches 'green' Web site](#)

### **Baltimore: LEED silver law**

*Maryland Daily Record - July 23*

On July 1, 2009, Baltimore started requiring builders to adhere to the USGBC LEED silver standard on new construction projects and major renovations. Regulations are still being drafted.

### **Pittsburgh may require LEED silver for TIF's**

*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette - July 16*

Citing 186 municipalities that have laws requiring environmentally friendly development, Pittsburgh is about to approve legislation requiring LEED silver for any tax-increment financing (TIF) projects. Further, if passed, the law would fine a developer 1% of construction costs if it took a TIF and then failed to meet LEED silver rating. Baltimore, Minneapolis, Miami-Dade County and others have approaches similar to that proposed for Pittsburgh. Los Angeles is among cities that expedite permitting, water and electrical approvals for green construction.

### **Syracuse, a sustainable building leader**

*The Post-Standard - July 27*

Syracuse, NY, lists its green and sustainable achievements, conferences and LEED projects.

### **Green building goes global**

*Hospitality Design - July 21*

The USGBC's LEED Rating System is now internationally recognized. Moving forward internationally, the USGBC will continue to engage with design communities, professional associations, and foreign governments to increase awareness of sustainable design.

### **Green building thrives despite recession**

*Environmental Leader - July 21*

Despite the recession, public and private projects are incorporating energy-saving and eco-friendly upgrades saving money in the long-term.

## **GBCI approves USGBC for continuing education**

*USGBC - July 21*

The USGBC was approved by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) as the first Education Reviewing Body (ERB). Now, the USGBC can review and approve continuing education offerings under the LEED Professional Credentialing Maintenance Program.

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### **Notable green building projects...**

#### **Princeton's Green Honor Roll**

*Princeton Review - July 27*

Princeton rated 697 colleges based on their environmentally related policies, practices, and academic offerings. The following 15 colleges received the highest possible score and are listed on the second annual "Green Rating Honor Roll" (in alphabetical order): (1) Arizona State University at the Tempe campus; (2) Bates College (Lewiston ME); (3) Binghamton University (State Univ. of New York at Binghamton); (4) College of the Atlantic (Bar Harbor ME); (5) Colorado College (Colorado Springs CO); (6) Dickinson College (Carlisle PA); (7) Evergreen State College (Olympia WA); (8) Georgia Institute of Technology (Atlanta); (9) Harvard College (Cambridge MA); (10) Middlebury College (Middlebury VT); (11) Northeastern University (Boston MA); (12) University of California - Berkeley; (13) University of New Hampshire (Durham); (14) University of Washington (Seattle); (15) Yale University (New Haven CT).

#### **Interchange -- largest LEED industrial project**

*Commercial Property News - July 22*

At 1.2 million square feet, the five-building Interchange Business Center became the largest speculative industrial project to receive LEED Silver certification.

#### **LEED Platinum apartments in Silicon Valley**

*KLIV - July 24*

California's first LEED Platinum apartment development was unveiled in Santa Clara, CA.

#### **PNC, with most LEED projects, plans largest living wall**

*Fast Company - July 21*

PNC Financial Services Group has constructed more LEED-certified green buildings than any other company in the world. Now PNC is taking the lead on green walls. PNC will construct the largest Green Living Wall in North America at its Pittsburgh headquarters. The 2,380-square-foot wall constructed out of regional plants, will provide shade to surrounding sidewalks, absorb sound, and cool the surface of the south wall by 70 to 80 degrees.

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**[Hannaford supermarket earns LEED Platinum](#)**

*Greener Buildings - July 23*

A Hannaford supermarket in Augusta, Maine, has earned LEED Platinum. The supermarket features rooftop drought-resistant plants that impede water runoff.

**[Medical Center of the Rockies -- largest LEED Gold](#)**

*coloradoan.com - July 27*

Medical Center of the Rockies in Loveland, Colorado earned LEED gold, an achievement reached by only one other hospital in the United States.

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## Events

Our attorneys speak at many conferences and seminars on green building topics.

**Bryan Jackson's** list of recent speaking engagements can be found [here](#).

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## Renewable Energy Update

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