



# CINCINNATI REGIONAL CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

U. S. GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL

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QUARTERLY

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## Chair's Message

### Welcome!

The USGBC - Cincinnati Regional Chapter thanks you for your support of green building in southwest Ohio. Over the past few months, several new green initiatives have developed in our region.

- The Hamilton County Board of Commissioners signed the *Cool Counties* declaration pledging to reduce Hamilton County's energy emissions 2% per year in the fight against global warming.
- Cincinnati Public Schools announced that all new schools will meet the LEED standard.
- The Go Green Challenge was announced encouraging local businesses and organizations to develop at least one measurable goal to reduce their environmental impact. The Challenge is a partnership among Cincinnati Children's Hospital, The Christ Hospital, and University of Cincinnati.
- The City of Cincinnati launched Green Cincinnati, the city's effort to protect the climate, improve the health of the city, and become more energy efficiency.

The USGBC - Cincinnati Regional Chapter is proud of the accomplishments of local governments and businesses.

Thank you,

Greg Hutzel  
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## What's New

### Cincinnati Public Schools promotes Sustainable Design

The architects and engineers have been given direction to design the 3<sup>rd</sup> segment of Cincinnati Public School Facility Master Plan using LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) guidelines. Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) issued its High Performance Design Guidelines, as the first public school district in Ohio to adopt a sustainable design guideline, with an addition to its Facilities Master Plan Building Standards in the April 13, 2007 partnering session to all of the contracted design teams. Four upcoming schools are to be registered with a goal of being awarded the LEED Silver for new projects or LEED Certified for renovation projects from USGBC.

CPS was introduced to LEED by the USGBC's Cincinnati Chapter. Some of its members participated on the school planning team for Pleasant Ridge Elementary. Steed Hammond Paul (SHP), the Architect of Record, volunteered the additional design services required to submit the design of Pleasant Ridge Elementary in Segment 2a, as CPS's first attempt to achieve a LEED certified project. In the school planning team meetings, the local community stated that it wanted its new neighborhood school to follow LEED guidelines and be a sustainable school that will increase the performance of its students and staff. Construction of Pleasant Ridge Elementary School is underway. It is LEED registered with the intention of becoming Ohio's first LEED certified public school.

The owner's acceptance of LEED certification is a major step. Most Owners support the idea of "green, environmentally friendly" design but are not aware of all the benefits of high performance design. The CPS planning team has made this step a reality.

CPS and SHP provided their support for the September 27, 2007 Ohio School Facility Commission (OSFC) announcement of its "Green School" initiative by having all OSFC funded buildings having a minimum requirement of meeting LEED silver certification and a goal of LEED gold certification.

### USGBC - Cincinnati Chapter Sponsors Three LEED Workshops

Over the past three months, the Chapter sponsored three LEED workshops to increase local capacity of green building. All three workshops were very well-attended by our members and industry professionals.

## Upcoming Events

### GreenBuild 2007

#### USGBC National Convention,

Chicago, Ill - November 6,7,8,9, 2007

The annual convention is the biggest event of the green building calendar. This year, it's close to home. Many from Cincinnati will be going. This is the premier event for seeing the upcoming technologies and learning from the very best minds in this industry. For more information, go to the links below.

For more information visit [www.greenbuildexpo.org](http://www.greenbuildexpo.org)

### Annual Chapter Meeting

December 6, 2007

At the annual meeting we would like to provide a warm reception to our chapter members and present the annual report. This will be a great networking opportunity for all who attend.

Stay tuned for more information on our [chapter website](#)

### Green Advantage -

#### Contractor Training Seminar

In spring of 2008 USGBC-Cincinnati will provide a Green Building Training and Certification workshop through Green understanding of environmental impact of buildings.

Stay tuned for more information on our [chapter website](#)

## DID YOU KNOW....

The average added cost for a green building, compared to a traditional building, is 2%, while the energy savings averages anywhere from 8% to 30%!

Source: 2003 Davis Langdon Adamson Report

The **LEED for Schools** Green Building Rating System recognizes the unique nature of the design and construction of K-12 schools. Based on LEED for New Construction, it addresses issues such as classroom acoustics, master planning, mold prevention, and environmental site assessment. The LEED – Schools workshop was held on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

**LEED for Existing Buildings** maximizes operational efficiency while minimizing environmental impacts. It provides a recognized, performance-based benchmark for building owners and operators to measure operations, improvements and maintenance on a consistent scale. LEED for Existing Buildings is a road map for delivering economically profitable, environmentally responsible, healthy, productive places to live and work. The LEED – Existing Buildings workshop was held on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

**LEED for Homes** is a voluntary rating system that promotes the design and construction of high performance "green" homes. A green home uses less energy, water, and natural resources; creates less waste; and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. Benefits of a LEED home include lower energy and water bills; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and less exposure to mold, mildew and other indoor toxins. The net cost of owning a LEED home is comparable to that of owning a conventional home.

The Chapter will continue to sponsor LEED workshops for our members. For information on upcoming programs, visit <http://chapters.usgbc.org/cincinnati/>

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## DID YOU KNOW....

An increase in productivity of just 1% will be enough to pay the energy bill in most green buildings!

Source: Rocky Mountain Institute 1994

## LEED Certified Projects - Southwest Ohio

The Cincinnati region is home to eight buildings which have earned LEED Certification since June, 2007. These projects have achieved measurable benchmarks in their design, construction, and operation for sustainability. LEED certification means that they buildings conserve our natural resources and serve healthier, more productive occupants. The USGBC Cincinnati chapter salutes the owners, designers, and builders of these progressive projects.

### Elements IV Interiors Headquarters, Dayton

LEED-Commercial Interiors, Silver



## The Green House



By Peter Menice & Brad Gilchrist

The Green House is a new green comic strip by cartoonists Peter Menice & Brad Gilchrist. You can read it 3 times a week @ [www.greenhousecomics.com](http://www.greenhousecomics.com)

## GREEN WORD SOLVE

A B M O B O

Hint: Alternative wood product, hard, durable and rapidly renewable

V I D E I R B I S T Y O

Hint: A variety of life in all forms, plants, animal and ecosystems

E H G O S N G E R E S A E S U

Hint: Carbon-dioxide, methane and CFCs are examples in our atmosphere

S E G I P E P T N I F

Hint: Charges paid when delivering waste to landfills

What nation utilizes nearly 25% of all natural resources in the world yet comprises only 5% of the world's population?

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## Recent LEED Registered Projects Southwest Ohio

The following regional projects have been registered with the USGBC since June, 2007, with the intention of achieving LEED Certification.

### The Arbors Cincinnati

### City of Cincinnati Fire Station 51 Cincinnati

### Community Behavioral Health Building Hamilton

### emersion DESIGN office Norwood

### Fay Apartments Renovation Cincinnati

### Greenhills Residential Redevelopment Greenhills

### The Herald Building Cincinnati

### RiverScape Phase III Dayton

### Steed Hammond Paul Corporate Offices Norwood

A renovated 30 year old, 39,000 square foot building houses warehouse and offices. The project incorporates refurbished skylights, new Energy Star appliances and equipment, and a new raised access floor for energy savings and comfort. Potable water usage is also greatly reduced. The hallmark of this project is the retasking of materials and components. For example, existing furnishings are re-installed, glass walls are reused as interior dividers, and floor tile is crushed for use as a base layer for the new concrete slabs.

## Harold C. Schott Education Center Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Gardens

LEED-New Construction Silver



This 33,000 square foot facility houses the Zoo Academy, a K-12 learning center of classrooms, offices, theater, tropical rainforest, and facilities for overnight stays. LEED Certification is achieved by optimized energy performance and extensive use of recycled materials. Its key achievement is the optimization of indoor environmental quality. The project earns nearly every available LEED credit in this category.

## Norwood Venture Phase I

LEED-New Construction Certified



## JOIN the Chapter

Stay informed, connect with professionals, earn discounts.

Membership in the Cincinnati Regional Chapter is open to any individual.

Dues are low... and lower yet for students and employees of National USGBC member organizations. [Click](#) to open an application.

Be a leader. Encourage sustainable building. Support your chapter.

Originally built in 1926, the core and shell of this 60,000 square foot office building have been modified and restored. The surrounding grounds of the former manufacturing facility have been remediated of contaminants and landscaped with water efficient plants. The shell features a cool roof and enhanced insulation of walls and windows. Tenant suites include raised access floors.

## **Richard E. Lindner Athletic Center University of Cincinnati**

**LEED-New Construction Certified**



The boomerang shaped, 195,000 square foot building sits on a tight sight, linking various athletic facilities. It houses offices, classrooms, lounges, an auditorium, training rooms, and practice facilities. Uniting these is a building-length atrium housing a museum. LEED Certification is achieved through energy optimization, construction waste management, and an aggressive use of recycled and regionally-sourced materials.

**[USGBC-Cincinnati Website](#)**