

**SOURCEBOOK**  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

# **SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PROGRAM**

**RESIDENTIAL  
REHABILITATION**



THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT



GLOBAL GREEN USA

AN INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP TO CREATE HEALTHY  
AND EFFICIENT HOUSING IN LOS ANGELES

## **Issues of Cost**

The following checklist identifies product by cost range: No Cost, Low Cost, and Moderate Cost. These categories represent general guidelines for the initial cost difference between conventional building practice and the recommended sustainable building feature. In many instances, the sustainable feature will have paid for itself within a few years of installation, either through greater efficiency or in health benefits.

The cost ranges also reflect the cost of incorporating features during the remodeling process. For example, it is much easier to design a new passive solar building than it is to retrofit an existing building to take advantage of passive solar energy. Some buildings are more easily retrofitted than others. Therefore, the cost guidelines are broad and general.

A second issue also impacts the relative cost of sustainable building products. The building industry pricing structure is typically based on volume purchases and type of customer. For example, a large tract builder can get much lower prices for materials than a small remodeling contractor. The City of Los Angeles Housing department can get better prices than a small Community Development Corporation. Prices for the same product can also vary from dealer to dealer by as much as 50%. It would be a disservice to list a price in the *Sourcebook* and have our readers not be able to find the product at that price.

## **Changes and Corrections**

While we have made every effort to ensure that the information presented in this *Sourcebook* is accurate and complete, manufacturers change their products regularly and businesses that once carried particular products may no longer continue to stock them. We would request that if you cannot find a product that we have listed or if you discover some other error in this book, please send us an email at [ggusa@globalgreen.org](mailto:ggusa@globalgreen.org) to let us know.

## **Disclaimer**

This book is not intended to be an endorsement of any specific products, their manufacturers, or the local suppliers by Green Global, the City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department, or any other entity. The City of Los Angeles and Global Green USA assume no liability for the use of information on products included in this *Sourcebook* or accompanying *Guidebook*. It is strictly meant to provide an introduction to the sustainable building product industry. There are hundreds of other innovative and appropriate products on the market that have not been included in this directory.

## **Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department**

The Environmental Affairs department works to make Los Angeles the world leader in the protection and enhancement of the urban environment. EAD makes positive and measurable improvements in the quality of life in Los Angeles through an integrated and sustainable approach that recognizes the linkage between a clean environment, a strong economy, and equity for all people.

EAD is the chief advisor to the City on environmental matters. It proactively brings together people and resources to educate and develop ways to improve the Los Angeles environment, EAD strives to enable all individuals and organizations to have full and equal participation in environmental decision-making.

EAD is a model City department, recognized as responsive, creative, entrepreneurial, effective, and efficient. EAD values the diversity of its people, developing their skills and nurturing their growth.

Contact us at:

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Web: [www.cityofla.org/EAD](http://www.cityofla.org/EAD)**

## **Global Green USA**

Global Green USA works in cooperation with individuals, industry, and government to create a global value shift toward a sustainable future. Acting as a catalyst, facilitator, and mediator, GG USA encourages collaborative approaches and innovative solutions. In doing so, GG USA is meeting environmental challenges rooted in the past and realizing opportunities that lay ahead.

GG USA was founded as the American affiliate of Green Cross International (GCI) in 1994 by businesswoman and activist Diane Meyer Simon after GCI President Mikhail Gorbachev invited her to join his global environmental movement. GCI now has affiliates in 21 countries, representing nearly every continent.

Within GG USA's Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Communities for the Urban Environment (RESCUE) Program, GG USA has developed the Greening Affordable Housing Initiative (GAHI). Working in partnership with affordable housing developers in Los Angeles and beyond, GG USA is helping lower energy bills of families in need and creating healthier homes while protecting the environment. GG USA's effort includes outreach to local and nation legislatures to increase awareness about the importance of sustainable development and how to make it an integral part of public policy.

Contact us at:

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# SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PROGRAM SOURCEBOOK

## **Introduction**

This *Sourcebook* is a key component in the Los Angeles Sustainable Building Program which focuses on the rehabilitation of affordable single- and multi-family housing. The City of Los Angeles Environmental Affairs Department and Global Green USA have developed this program for the Los Angeles Empowerment Zone under a grant from the United States Department of Energy.

The goals of the program are to reduce operating costs for homeowners and tenants, create healthier homes, and foster an improved environment. The program plans to accomplish these goals by providing information, incentives, and other non-regulatory approaches to promote and encourage renewable energy, energy efficiency, water efficiency, environmental and healthy building materials, indoor air quality, and other sustainable features. Participation in the Sustainable Building Program is voluntary. The program is designed for homeowners, non-profit and other housing developers, building managers, architects, contractors, City staff, and policy makers.

Program components include this *Sourcebook* for locally-available sustainable products and technologies, and a companion *Guidebook for Los Angeles' Sustainable Building Program* that includes a checklist of sustainable features and that describes in simple terms and with illustrations the elements of designing and building sustainable buildings.

## **How To Use This Book**

Once the building has been designed, or the rehabilitation has been planned, the difficult chore of finding sustainable building products has often led to substitutions that compromise the sustainable qualities of the building. In tandem with the *Guidebook*, the *Sourcebook* should simplify the task of finding those sustainable products and technologies by providing a listing of where in Los Angeles they may be purchased.

## **Organization of The Book**

The *Sourcebook* follows the Los Angeles Sustainable Building Checklist on the following pages. The checklist categories have been designed to be in the logical sequence of steps in the construction process, i.e. Site, Structural Frame, Plumbing/Water, Electrical, Roofing, Insulation, Windows, HVAC, Renewables/Solar, IAQ/Finishes, and Operations and Maintenance. When a product is specified, look in the appropriate section for the specific feature needed.

Each section contains products that fulfill the requirements of sustainability for each category. The manufacturers, their respective product/s, contact information and local suppliers are listed for each product. Product notes are also included, giving further details on each product.