

# Building Green: Training for Municipalities

Municipal staff are encountering greater demands on their knowledge of buildings that incorporate innovative, new energy-saving and resource-conserving technologies. Half-day courses delivered on-site provide your development approvals, planning and technical staff a foundation of understanding of the green development industry. Our experienced educators are green buildings practitioners, having developed and advised on dozens of LEED projects.

## An Introduction to Green Buildings

This course provides an overview of green buildings to participants. It answers the questions: What is a green building? And how do green buildings benefit people and communities? It is intended for municipal development approvals staff and provides a basic level of green building literacy.

Issues covered:

- ✓ Costs and benefits (financial, environmental, and social) for cities
- ✓ Economics of building green, including the role cities play
- ✓ Model municipal programs and incentives
- ✓ Applicable rating systems – the LEED suite of rating systems, Energy Star, Green Globes
- ✓ Examples of green buildings – showing both local examples and leading-edge buildings

Format: Lecture/discussion format, with small group exercise.

## Green Building Technologies and Practices

This course builds upon the introductory course, and delves more deeply into green building technologies and practices. We outline the benefits that accrue to cities for different technologies (financial, environmental, and social), specific challenges (regulatory, financial or other), and case studies. We also discuss how various technologies can help achieve LEED credits. Technologies discussed include:

- ✓ Green roofs and green walls
- ✓ Brownfield remediation
- ✓ On-site wastewater treatment systems (e.g. membrane systems, solar aquatics)
- ✓ Renewable energy technologies (e.g. photovoltaics, urban wind turbines, waste biomass, geexchange)
- ✓ Alternative stormwater management techniques (e.g. rain gardens, bioswales, grass paving, engineered wetlands)
- ✓ Passive solar design
- ✓ Natural ventilation strategies
- ✓ District energy systems
- ✓ Green landscaping practices (e.g. edible landscaping, xeriscaping)

Format: Lecture/discussion format, with small group exercise.

## Sample comments:

“One of the best things about the module was the fact that the presenters were able to answer all the questions meaningfully, and often would engage in a good discussion about a particular problem.”

“City staff were very happy to see the City taking this initiative.”

“Presentations like this to City staff are a smart way to help change the development culture in the City.”

*At BuildGreen Solutions, we believe in the value of education in creating market, organizational and societal transformation.*