

LEED[®] CERTIFICATION

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings meet certain requirements provided by the U.S. Green Building Council. The U.S. Green Building Council is a non-profit organization with up-to-date information about environmentally friendly building practices. The Council shares information and green building practices with its members and provides the different LEED certification programs seen below.

LEEDing Gains

Gaines Charter Township is home to the first LEED certified factory. The Steelcase Wood Manufacturing Facility on 68th St. SE received silver LEED certification in 2001. The Steelcase Wood Manufacturing Facility provides a tobacco-free campus, efficient heating, cooling and waste management, and has added sustainability and beauty to the Township.



- Qualify for tax rebates, zoning allowances and other incentives in hundreds of cities
- Reduce waste sent to landfills.
- Conserve energy and water.
- Be healthier and safer for occupants.

LEED HIGHLIGHTS



Educate Gains

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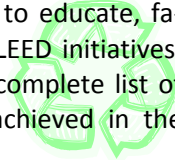
PROVIDED BY THE GAINES CHARTER TOWNSHIP PLANNING AND ZONING DEPARTMENT

Everyday LEEDs

You may already be promoting LEED certified buildings and practices without even knowing it by shopping, working, playing or socializing. A visit to the Grand Rapids Art Museum, the bank, school, a sporting event, a place of worship, or even shopping in a local grocery store may place you in a LEED certified building.

United States Green Building Council West Michigan Chapter

The USGBC - West Michigan Chapter was organized in 2004 to educate, facilitate and network with local LEED initiatives. Please visit their website for a complete list of LEED "firsts" that have been achieved in the West Michigan region.



LEED Firsts

The David D. Huntington YMCA in downtown Grand Rapids is one of the largest urban Y's in the U.S and was the first YMCA in the United States to achieve LEED certification.

The result was a multi-faceted building awash in natural light and filled with fresh air. Sustainable components range from low/no-VOC off-gassing finishes, floors and carpets to photovoltaic solar roof panels.

Further information about LEED Certification is provided by the United States Green Building Council at www.usgbc.org and at www.usgbcwm.org for the West Michigan Chapter.



LEED Versions

New Construction	Designed to guide and distinguish high-performance commercial and institutional projects, this includes major renovations.
Existing Buildings	Provides a system for building owners and operators to measure operations, improvements and maintenance of existing buildings.
Commercial Interiors	Provides a system for tenant improvements that give the power to make sustainable choices to tenants and designers.
Core and Shell	Aids in implementing sustainable design for new "core and shell" (structure, heating, cooling, etc.) construction.
Homes	Promotes the design and construction of high-performance green homes.
Neighborhood Development	Integrates the principles of smart growth, urbanism and green building into the first national standard for neighborhood design.
Schools	Recognizes the unique nature of the design and construction of K-12 schools and addresses the specific needs of school spaces.
Retail	Recognizes the unique nature of retail design and construction projects, and addresses the specific needs of green retail spaces.
Healthcare	Promotes sustainable planning, design and construction for high-performance healthcare facilities.



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