

# The Leap to Zero Carbon: Preparing for the 2030 Challenge



Defining the FIRST STEPS to Carbon Neutral Design

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## Overview:

Designing to Zero Carbon standards as defined by the Architecture2030 Challenge, requires a modified approach to current sustainable and high performance design methods. This session will answer the question “What is Zero Carbon?” and through a series of key case studies differentiate the means by which sustainable/high performance and low carbon buildings are designed. Case studies will be used to demonstrate how new low-carbon strategies and systems are incorporated to reduce GHG emissions.

# Learning Objectives

- **Differentiate between sustainable design and carbon neutral (zero carbon) design.**
- **Incorporate comprehensive sustainable strategies** into their projects based upon bioclimatic considerations that respond to passive environmental design basics.
- **Prioritize the critical design issues** and questions to meet advanced sustainable design targets, leading to the **potential to incorporate zero energy/zero emissions** and carbon neutral.
- **Identify key strategies** that must be included in architectural design in order to design buildings to carbon neutral, zero energy standards.
- **Assess the architectural implications and potential** of including Zero Carbon/Zero Energy strategies, materials and methods in a project.

# Global Warming and Sustainable Design:

- A priority has been placed, above and beyond current trends in Sustainable Design, on the reduction of GHG emissions
- Buildings account for more than 40% of the GHG
- Green, Sustainable and High Performance Buildings are not going far enough, quickly enough in reducing their negative impact on the environment, and certainly not far enough to offset the balance of building that marches on in ignorance
- Carbon Neutrality focuses on the relationship between all aspects of “building/s” and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Carbon Neutral Design strives to reverse trends in Global Warming

# Differentiating *Sustainable* vs. *Zero Carbon/Carbon Neutral*:

Sustainable design is a *holistic* way of designing buildings to minimize their environmental impact through:

- **Reduced dependency on non-renewable resources**
- **A more bio-regional response to climate and site**
- **Increased efficiency in the design of the building envelope and energy systems**
- **A environmentally sensitive use of materials**
- **Focus on healthy interior environments**
- **Characterized by buildings that aim to “*live lightly on the earth*” and**
- **“*Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*”**

United Nations World Commission on Environment and Development

# From ZED to Carbon Neutral

A **Near Zero Energy** building produces at least 75% of its required energy through the use of on-site renewable energy. Off-grid buildings that use some non-renewable energy generation for backup are considered near zero energy buildings because they typically cannot export excess renewable generation to account for fossil fuel energy use.

A **Carbon Neutral Building** derives 100% of its energy from non fossil fuel based renewables.

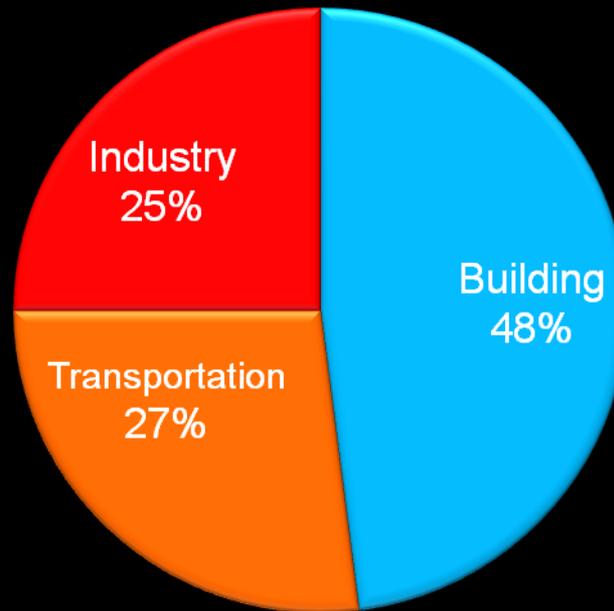
# Why Assess Carbon Neutrality?

- Sustainable design does not go far enough
- Assessing carbon is complex, but necessary
- The next important goal to reverse the effects of global warming and reduce CO<sup>2</sup> emissions is to make our buildings “**carbon neutral**”
- “**architecture2030**” is focused on raising the stakes in sustainable design to challenge designers to reduce their carbon emissions by 50% by the year 2030

[www.architecture2030.org](http://www.architecture2030.org)



## Energy Use by Developed Countries



# The Global Warming Pie....



These values look at Secondary Energy Use by Sector in Canada  
(2006)  
(energy used by the final consumer i.e. operating energy)

# The LEAP to Zero Carbon and beyond...

- Energy Efficient (mid 1970s “Oil Crisis” reaction)
  - High Performance (accountable)
  - **Green (environmentally responsive)**
    - Sustainable (holistic and accountable)
    - **Carbon Neutral (Zero Fossil Fuel Energy)**
  - Restorative
  - **Regenerative (Living Buildings)**

...a steady increase in the nature and expectations of performance criteria

# Fossil Fuel Reduction Standard:

The fossil fuel **reduction standard** for all **new buildings** shall be increased to:

60% in 2010

70% in 2015

80% in 2020

90% in 2025

**Carbon-neutral in 2030** (using no fossil fuel GHG emitting energy to **operate**).

Source: [www.architecture2030.org](http://www.architecture2030.org)



# 2030 Targets - Commercial



## 2030 CHALLENGE Targets: National Averages



### U.S. Average Site Energy Use and 2030 Challenge Energy Reduction Targets by Space/Building Type (CBECS 2003)<sup>1</sup>

From the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Use this chart to find the site fossil-fuel energy targets.

Primary Space/Building Type <sup>2</sup>	Available in Target Finder <sup>3</sup>	Average Source EUI <sup>4</sup> (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)	Average Percent Electric	Average Site EUI <sup>4</sup> (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)	2030 Challenge Site EUI Targets (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)				
					50% Target	60% Target	70% Target	80% Target	90% Target
Administrative/Professional & Government Office	✓								
Bank	✓								
Clinic/other outpatient health		219	76%	84.2	<b>42.1</b>	33.7	25.3	16.8	8.4
College/university (campus-level)		280	63%	120	<b>60</b>	48	36	24	12
Convenience store (with or without gas station)		753	90%	241.4	<b>120.7</b>	96.6	72.4	48.3	24.1
Distribution/shipping center		90	61%	44.2	<b>22.1</b>	17.7	13.3	8.8	4.4
Fast food		1306	64%	534.3	<b>267.2</b>	213.7	160.3	106.9	53.4
Fire station/police station		157	56%	77.9	<b>39.0</b>	31.2	23.4	15.6	7.8
Hospital/inpatient health	✓								
Hotel, Motel or inn	✓								
K-12 School	✓								
Medical Office	✓								

Target Finder is an online tool:

[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new\\_bldg\\_design.bus\\_target\\_finder](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_bldg_design.bus_target_finder)

# 2030 Targets – Residential:



## 2030 CHALLENGE Targets: Residential Regional Averages



U.S. Regional Averages for Site Energy Use and 2030 Challenge Energy Reduction Targets by Residential Space/Building Type (RECS 2001)<sup>1</sup>

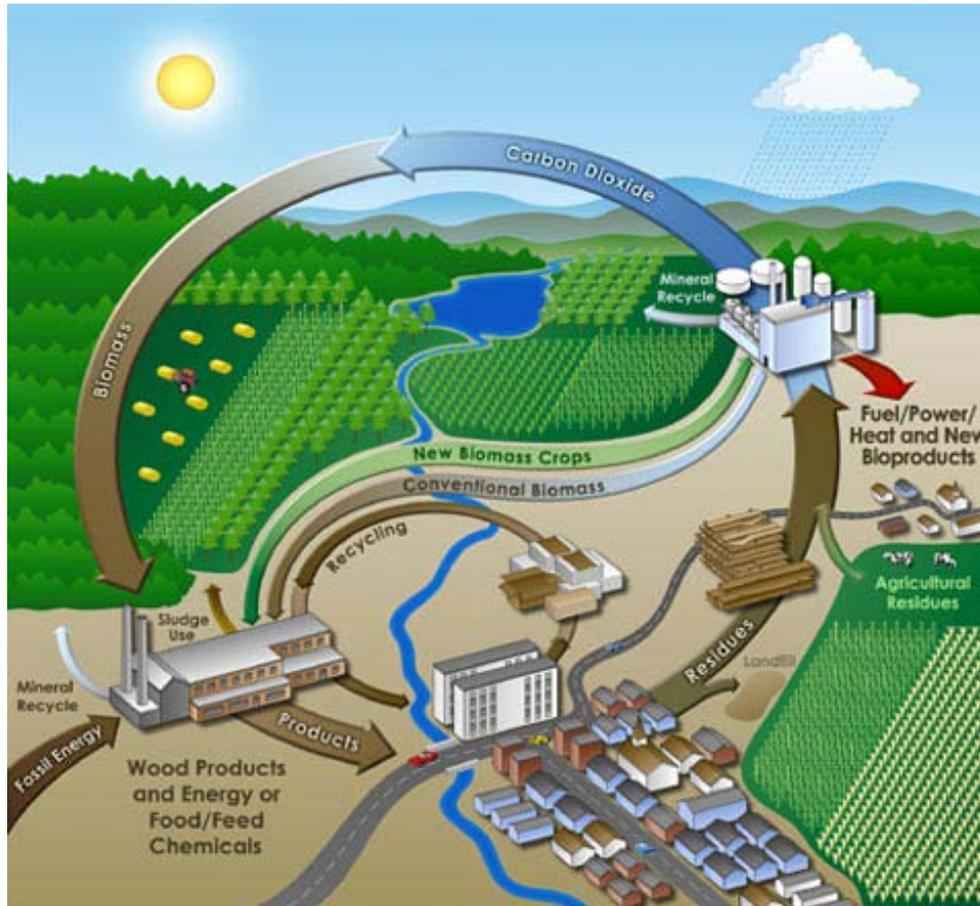
From the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Use this chart to find the site fossil-fuel energy targets.

Residential Space/Building Type <sup>2</sup>	Average Source EUI <sup>3,4</sup> (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)	Average Site EUI <sup>3,5</sup> (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)	2030 Challenge Site EUI Targets (kBtu/Sq.Ft./Yr)				
			50% Target	60% Target	70% Target	80% Target	90% Target
<b>Northeast</b>							
Single-Family Detached	67.5	45.7	<b>22.9</b>	18.3	13.7	9.1	4.6
Single-Family Attached	68.6	50.3	<b>25.1</b>	20.1	15.1	10.1	5.0
Multi-Family, 2 to 4 units	78.8	57.8	<b>28.9</b>	23.1	17.3	11.6	5.8
Multi-Family, 5 or more units	98.2	60.7	<b>30.4</b>	24.3	18.2	12.1	6.1
Mobile Homes	145.5	89.3	<b>44.6</b>	35.7	26.8	17.9	8.9
<b>Midwest</b>							
Single-Family Detached	76.2	49.5	<b>24.7</b>	19.8	14.8	9.9	4.9

...etc.

[http://www.architecture2030.org/downloads/2030\\_Challenge\\_Targets\\_Res\\_Regional.pdf](http://www.architecture2030.org/downloads/2030_Challenge_Targets_Res_Regional.pdf)

# Buildings / Processes and the Carbon Cycle:



<http://www.repp.org/bioenergy/bioenergy-cycle-med2.jpg>

As the way that buildings interact with carbon is highly complex, the first aim is to reduce operating energy as it is the most significant and easiest to control.

# Fossil Fuel Reduction Standard:

The fossil fuel **reduction standard** for all **new buildings** shall be increased to:

60% in 2010

70% in 2015

80% in 2020

90% in 2025

**Carbon-neutral in 2030** (using no fossil fuel GHG emitting energy to **operate**).

Source: [www.architecture2030.org](http://www.architecture2030.org)



Operating  
Energy of  
Building



80% of the problem!

Landscape  
+ Site

Disturbance vs. sequestration

Embodied  
Carbon in  
Building  
Materials

People, "Use" +  
Transportation

Renewables  
+ Site  
Generation

Counting Carbon costs....

+ purchased offsets

# Energy vs Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In BUILDINGS, for the sake of argument

**ENERGY CONSUMPTION = GHG EMISSIONS**

BUILDING ENERGY IS COMPRISED OF

**EMBODIED ENERGY**  
+  
**OPERATING ENERGY**

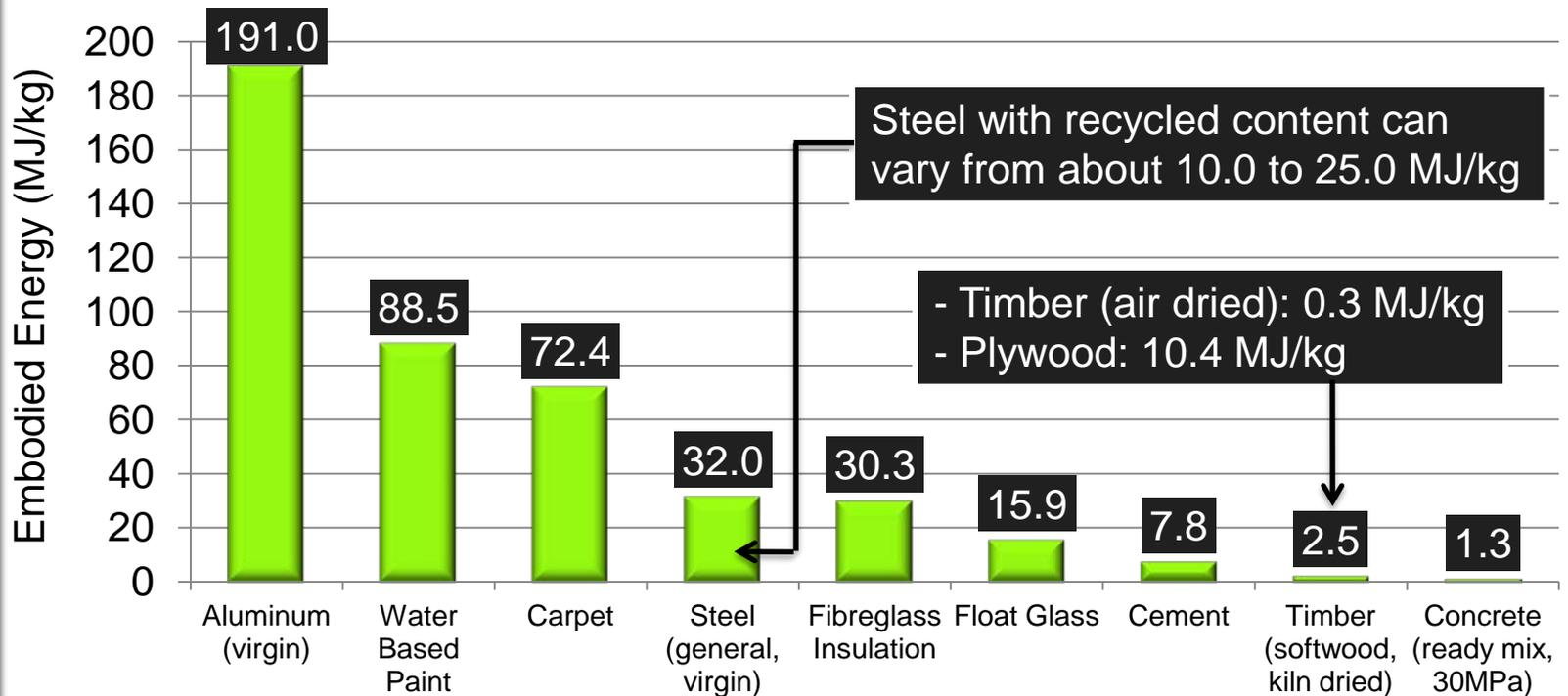
# Energy Use in Buildings

## Embodied Energy

- **Initial Embodied Energy**: Non-renewable energy consumed in the acquisition of raw materials, their processing, manufacturing, transportation to site, and construction
- **Recurring Embodied Energy**: Non-renewable energy consumed to maintain, repair, restore, refurbish or replace materials, components, or systems during life of building

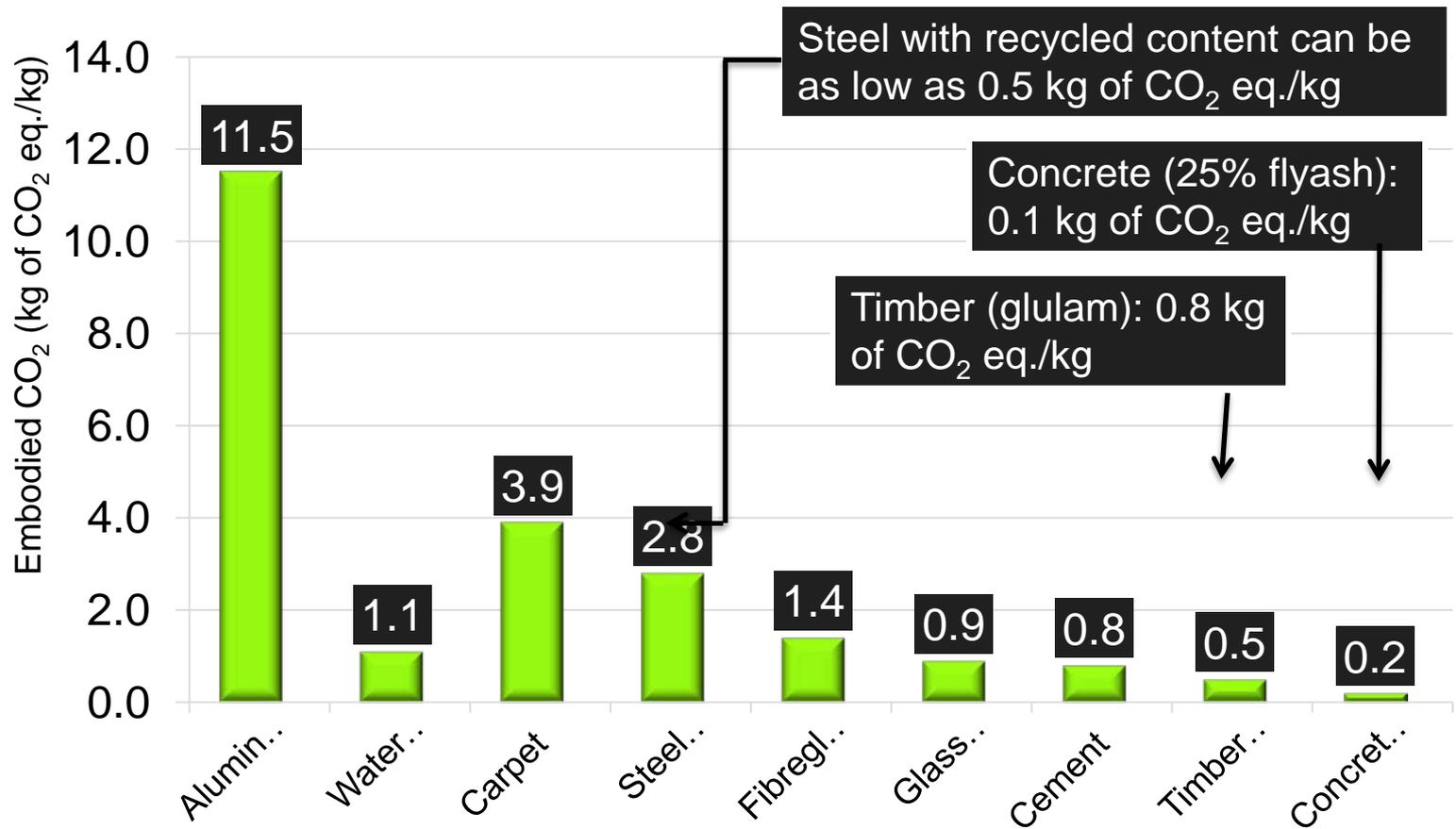


# Initial Embodied Energy of Building Materials Per Unit Mass



Source: University of Wellington, NZ, Center for Building Performance Research (2004)

# Embodied Carbon Dioxide of Building Materials Per Unit Mass



Source: University of Bath, UK, Inventory of Carbon and Energy (2008)

# The Life Cycle of a Material

## Life-Cycle Assessment (LCA)

- The main goal of a LCA is to quantify energy and material use as well as other environmental parameters at various stages of a product's life-cycle including: resource extraction, manufacturing, construction, operation, and post-use disposal

## Life-Cycle Inventory (LCI) Database

- A database that provides a cradle-to-grave accounting of the energy and material flows into and out of the environment that are associated with producing a material. This database is a critical component of a Life-Cycle Assessment

# Life Cycle Assessment Methodology

## Embodied Energy

### – ATHENA® Impact Estimator for Buildings



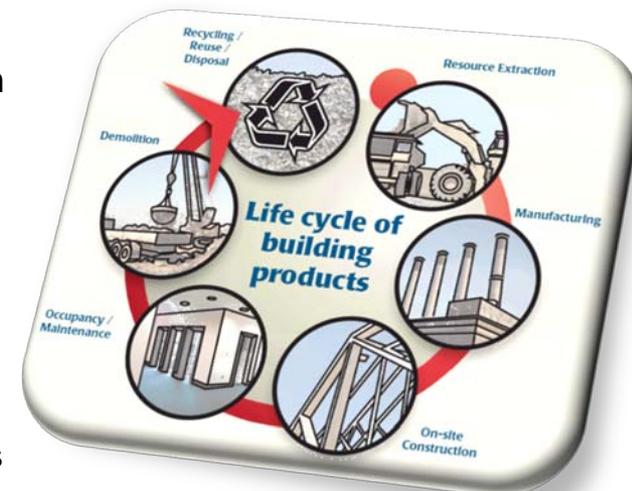
– The only North American specific software tool that evaluates whole buildings and assemblies based on internationally recognized LCA methodology

– Non-profit organization that has been around for more than 10 years

– One of the most comprehensive LCI databases in the world with over \$2 million spent on database development

### – Considers the life-cycle impacts of:

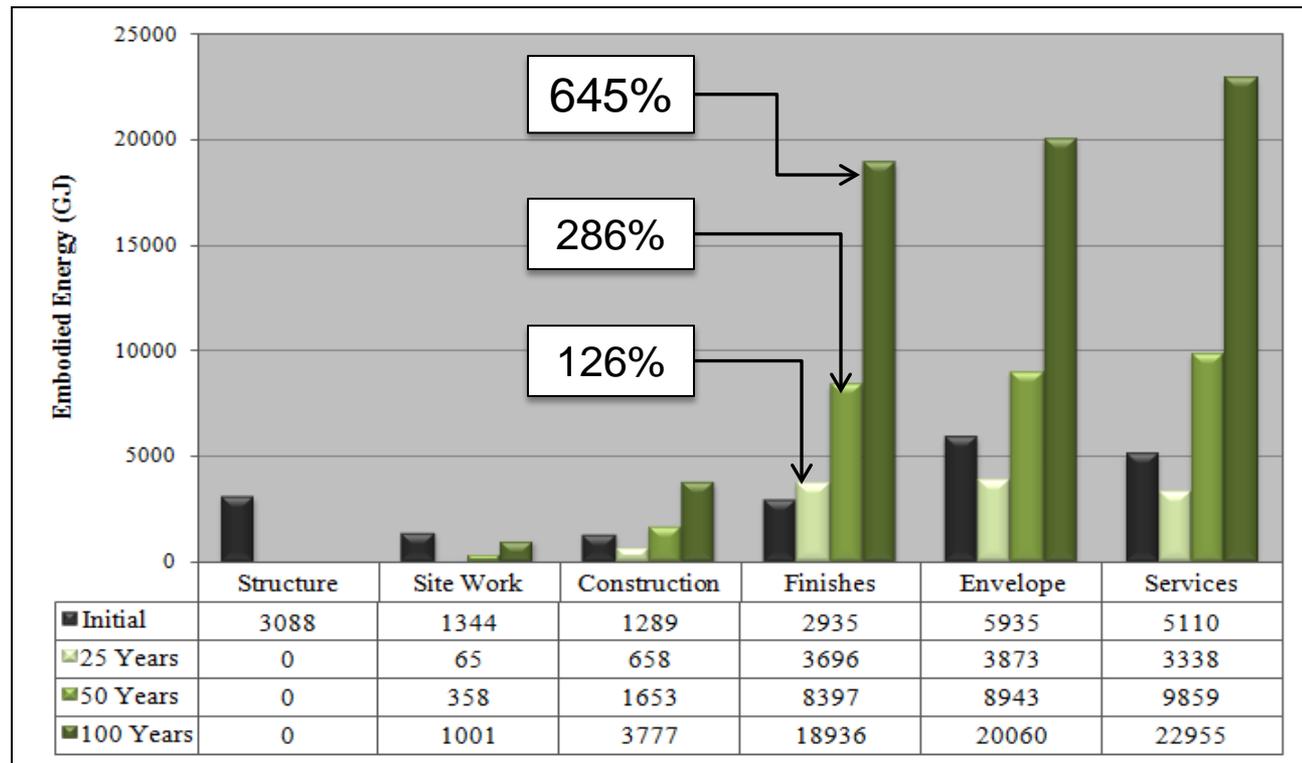
- ✓ Material manufacturing including resource extraction and recycled content
- ✓ Related transportation
- ✓ On-site construction
- ✓ Regional variation in energy use, transportation, and other factors
- ✓ Building type and assumed lifespan
- ✓ Maintenance, repair, and replacement effects
- ✓ Demolition and disposal
- ✓ Operating energy emissions and pre-combustion effects



# Energy in Common Building Components

## Initial Embodied Energy vs. Recurring Embodied Energy of a Typical Canadian Office Building Constructed from Wood

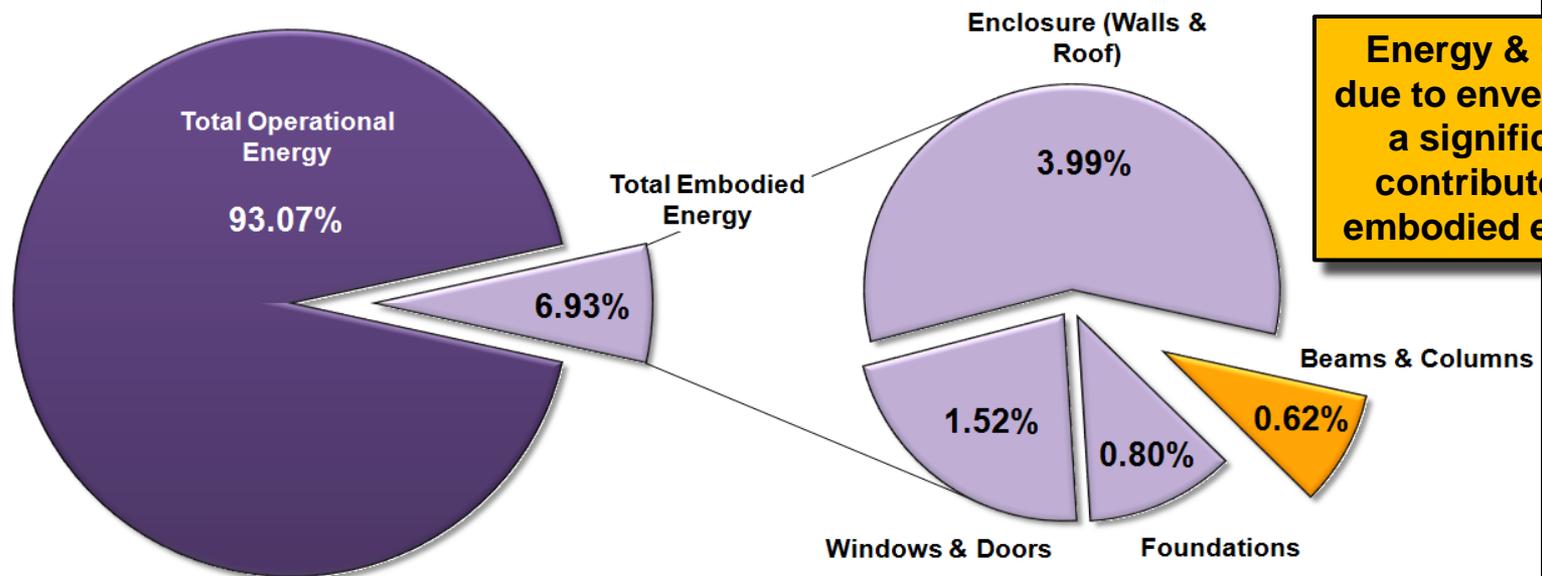
**Finishes,**  
**Envelope, &**  
**Services**  
dominate the embodied energy over the building's lifespan



# Orders of Environmental Impact

## Total Energy Breakdown of Typical Hot-Rolled Steel Retail Building After 50 Years (other building types are similar)

Total Energy Breakdown of Typical Hot-Rolled Steel Retail Building After 50 Years



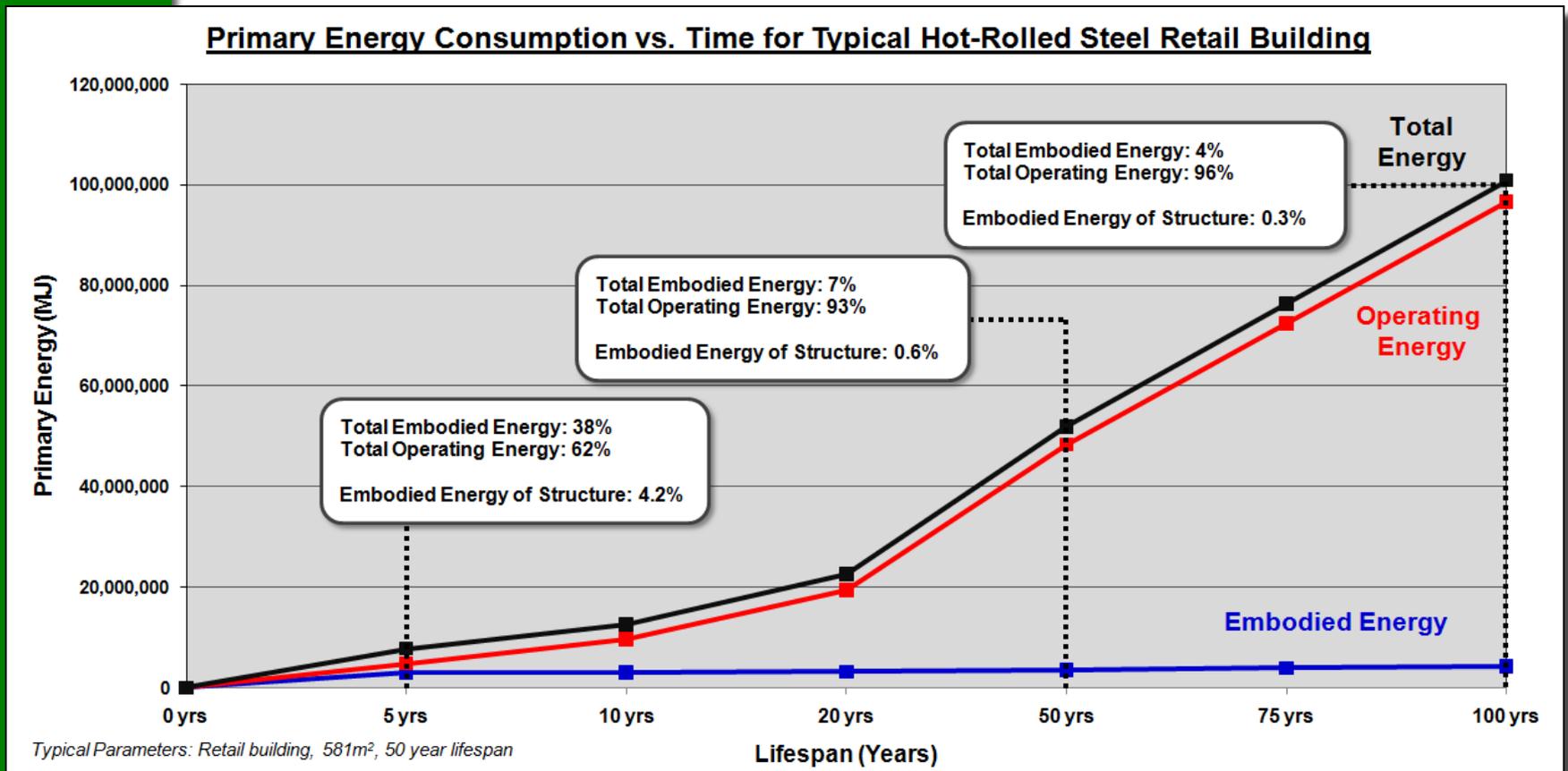
**Energy & GWP due to envelope is a significant contributor to embodied energy**

Typical Parameters: Retail building, 581m<sup>2</sup>, 50 year lifespan

\* **GWP: Beams & Columns = 0.75%**

# Orders of Environmental Impact

## Primary Energy Consumption vs. Time for Hot-Rolled Steel Retail Building (*other building types are similar*)



Source: Kevin Van Ootegham

[www.cn-sbs.cssbi.ca](http://www.cn-sbs.cssbi.ca)

# Embodied Energy Findings

*In conventional buildings, the building envelope (walls and roof), building services, and building finishes contribute the most towards the total embodied life-cycle energy (and total embodied GWP) when looking at the Embodied Energy of the Entire Building, including Structure.*

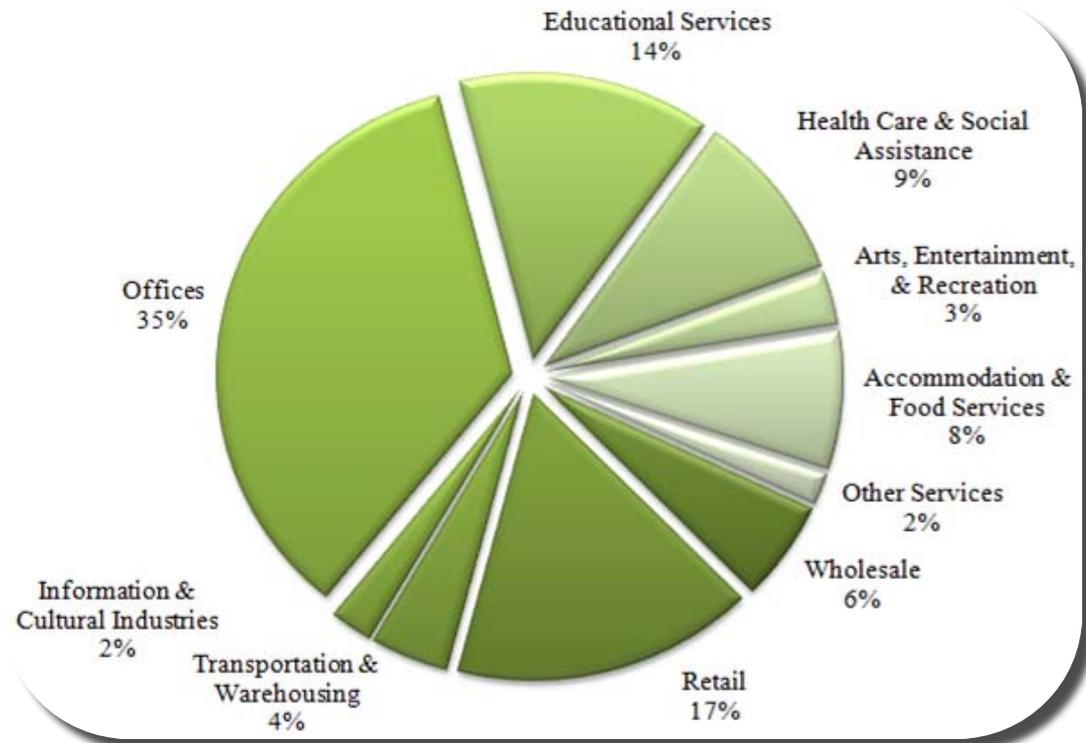
To lower GHG, choice of materials needs to reflect:

- issues of **DURABILITY**
- ability of material to assist **PASSIVE DESIGN**
- local sourcing to reduce **TRANSPORTATION**
- **Cradle to Cradle** concepts
- ability of material to be 1<sup>st</sup> **REUSED** and 2<sup>nd</sup> **RECYCLED**

# Energy Use in Buildings: Operating Energy

Amount of energy that is consumed by a building to satisfy the demand for heating, cooling, lighting, ventilation, equipment, etc.

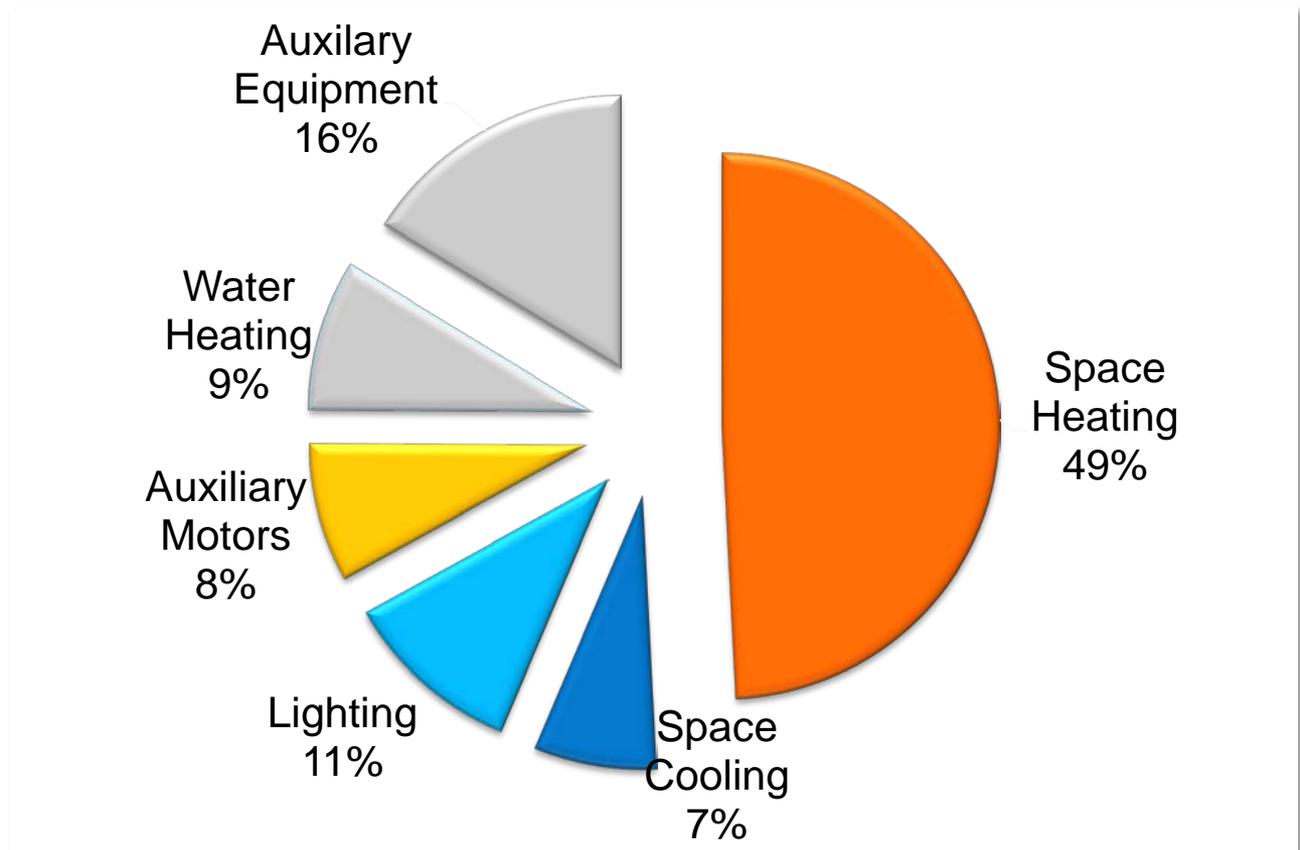
## Total Commercial/Institutional Secondary Energy Use by Activity Type in Canada (2006)



Source: Natural Resources Canada, 2006

# Energy Use in Buildings: Operating Energy

Total Commercial/Institutional Secondary Energy Use by End Use in Canada (2006)

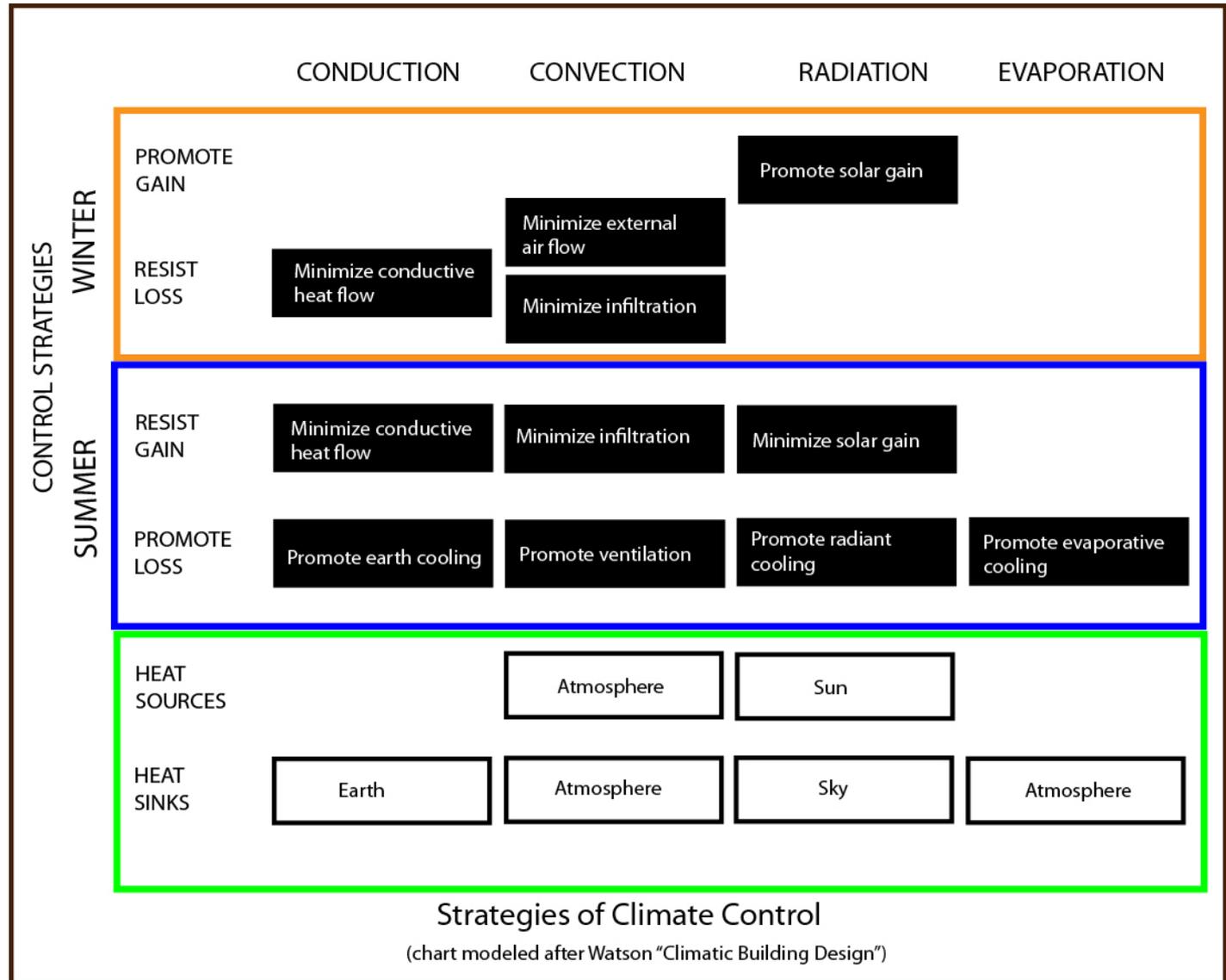


Source: Natural Resources Canada, 2006

## Four Key Steps – IN ORDER:

- #1 - Reduce loads/demand first** (conservation, passive design, daylighting, shading, orientation, etc.)
- #2 - Meet loads efficiently and *effectively*** (energy efficient lighting, high-efficiency MEP equipment, controls, etc.)
- #3 - Use renewables to meet energy needs** (doing the above steps *before* will result in the need for much smaller renewable energy systems, making carbon neutrality achievable.)
- #4 - Use purchased Offsets** as a *last resort* when all other means have been looked at on site, or where the scope of building exceeds the site available resources.

# Begin with Passive Strategies for Climate Control to Reduce Energy Requirements



# Carbon Reduction: The Tier Approach

REDUCING OPERATING ENERGY

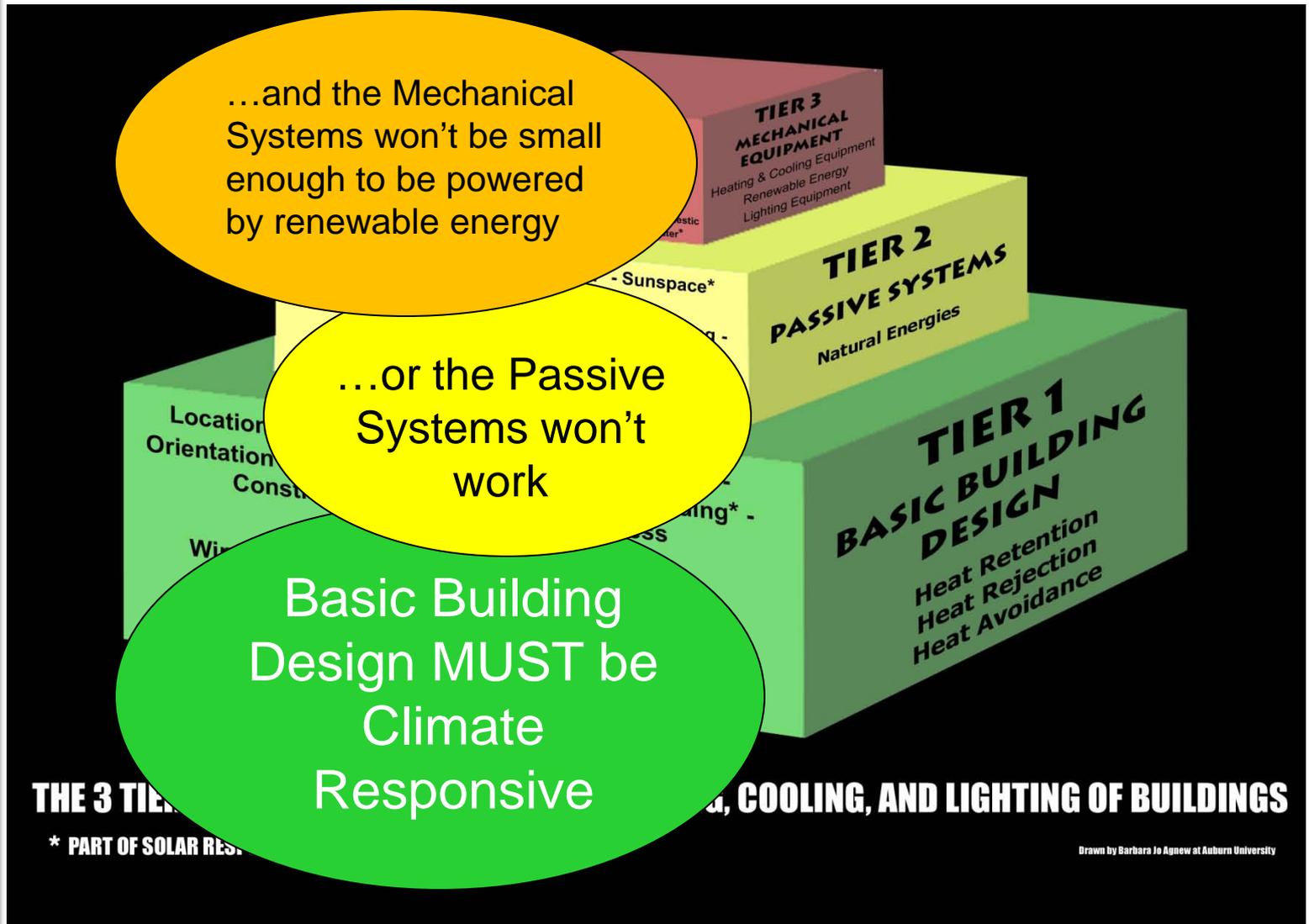
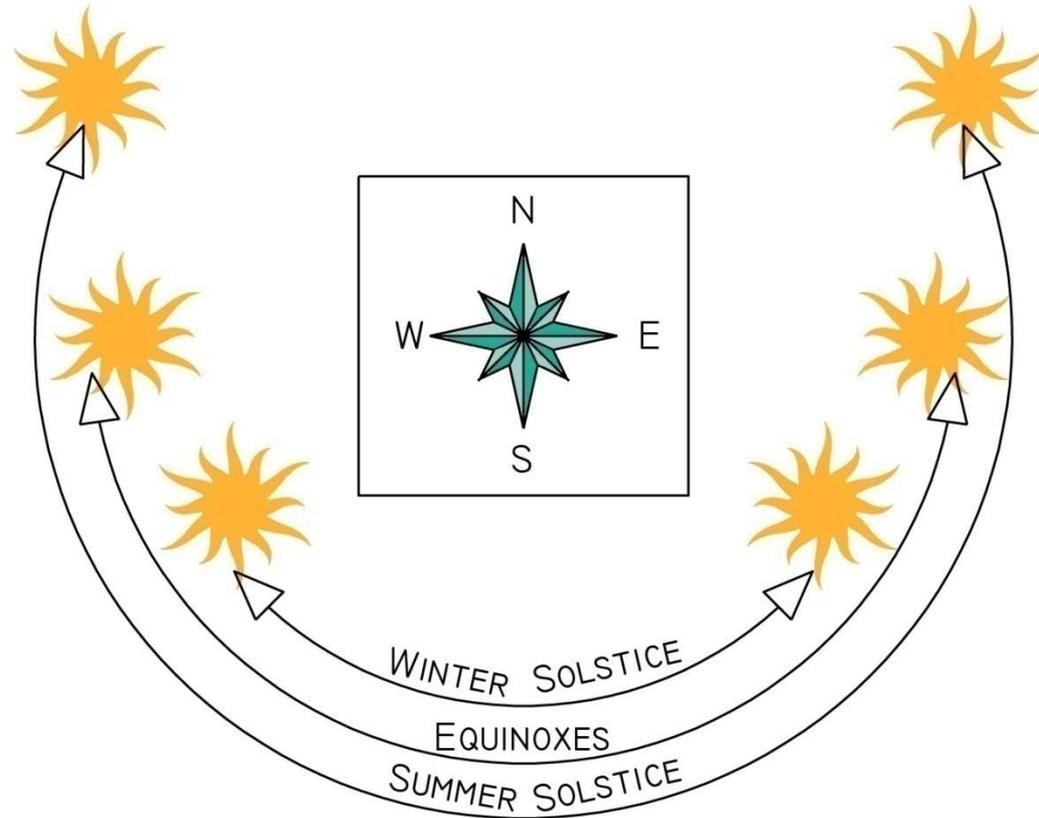


Image: Norbert Lechner, "Heating, Cooling, Lighting"

# #1 Starting Point – Locate the SUN

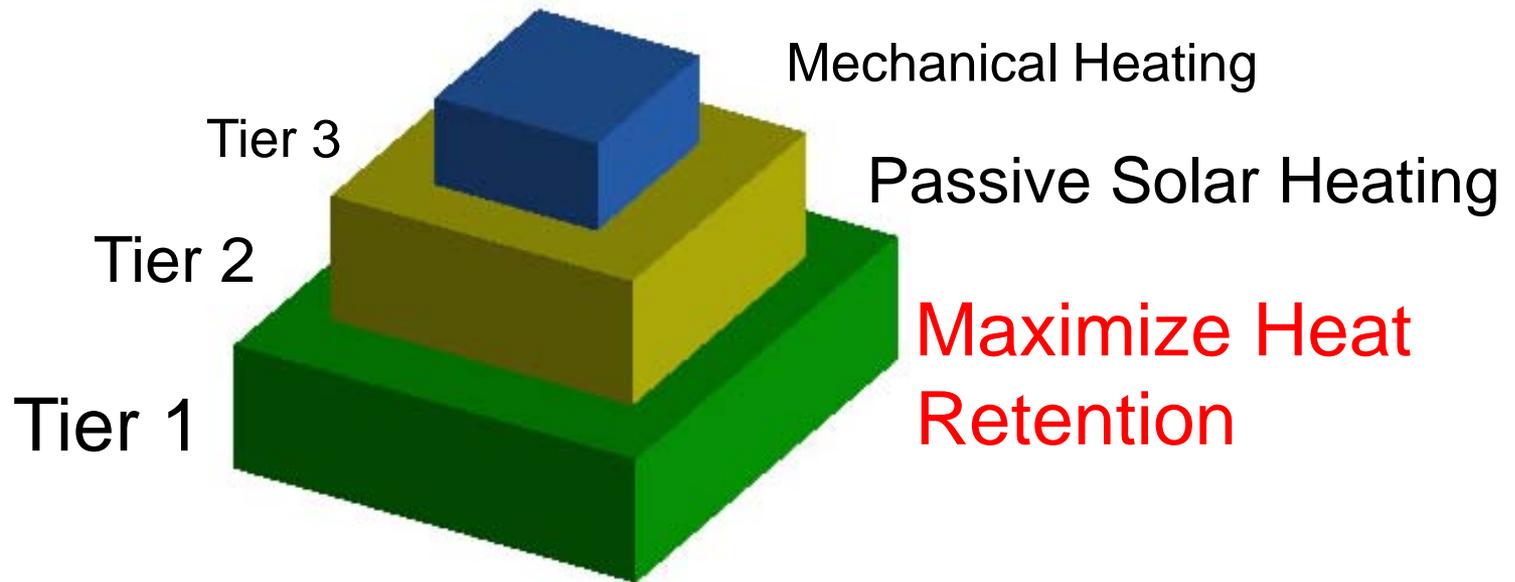
SOLAR AZIMUTH RANGE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



... and just deal with it!

# Reduce loads: **Passive Strategies**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon for **HEATING**:



First reduce the overall energy required, then maximize the amount of energy required for mechanical heating that comes from renewable sources.

Source: Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

# Passive Heating Strategies:

## Maximize Heat Retention

1. Super insulated envelope (*as high as double current standards*)
2. Tight envelope / controlled air changes
3. Provide thermal mass **inside** of thermal insulation to store heat
4. Top quality windows with high R-values – up to triple glazed with argon fill and low-e coatings on two surfaces

Premise – what you don't "lose" you don't have to create or power.... So make sure that you keep it! (...*NEGAWatts*)

# Passive Heating Strategies: Maximize Solar Gain

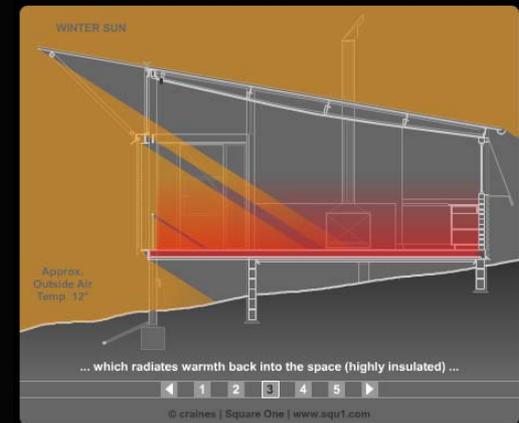
1. primarily south facing windows
2. proportion windows to suit thermal mass and size of room(s)

## 3 MAIN STRATEGIES:

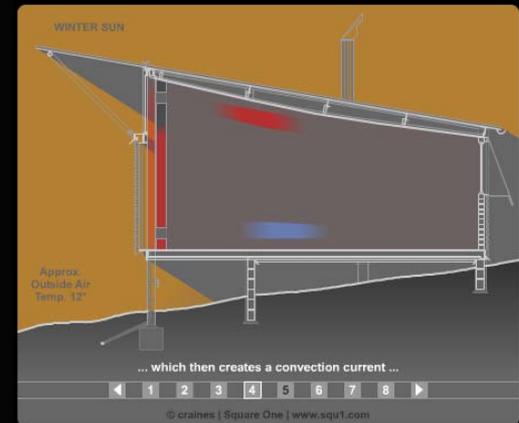
Direct Gain

Thermal Storage Wall

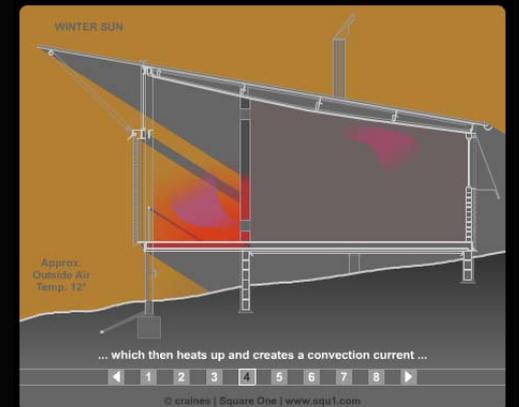
Sunspace



Direct Gain



Trombe Wall



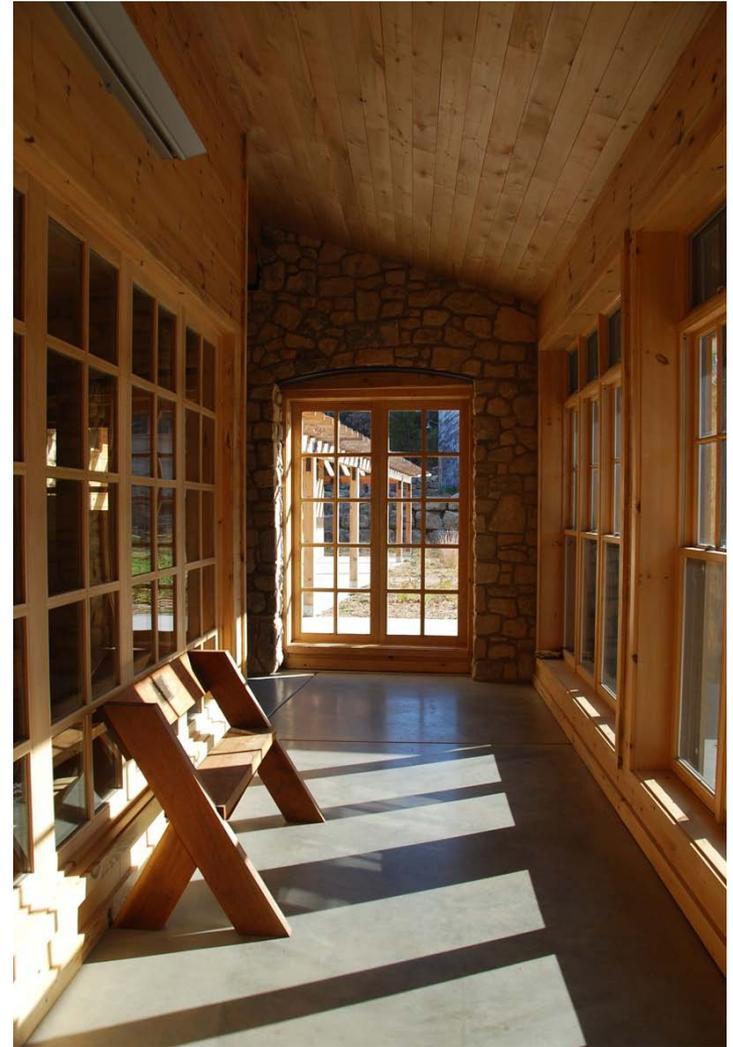
Sun Space

# Thermal Mass is Critical!

To ensure comfort to the occupants....

People are 80% water so if they are the only thermal sink in the room, they will be the target.

And to store the FREE energy for slow release distribution....

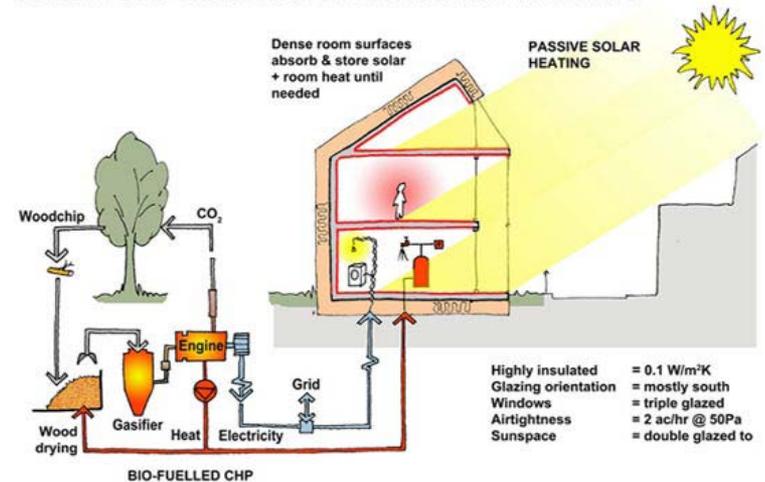


Aldo Leopold Legacy Center:  
Concrete floors complement the  
insulative wood walls

# Passive Heating Strategies: Use Renewables for Additional Heating

- Combined heat and power
- Biomass
- Geo exchange systems
- Radiant heating systems
- Verify carbon status of source

## HARNESSING CARBON NEUTRAL RENEWABLE ENERGY



### Types of Biomass



Wood fuel



Rubbish



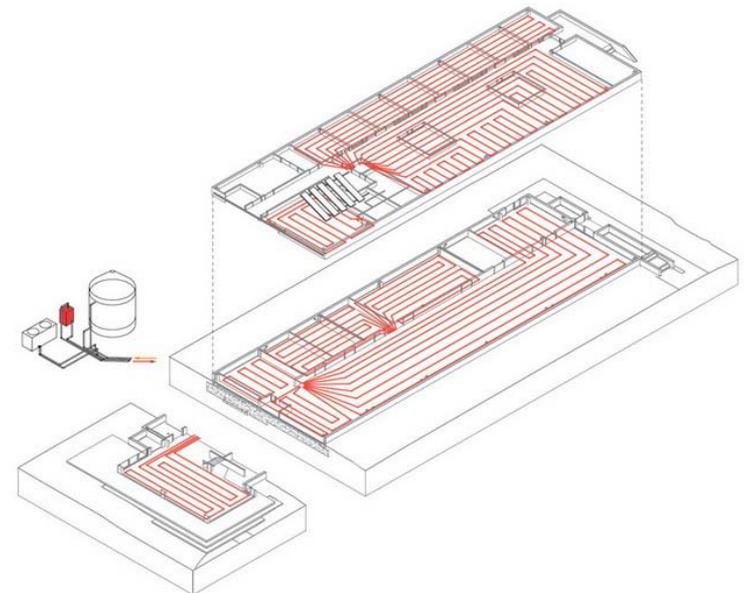
Alcohol fuels



Crops

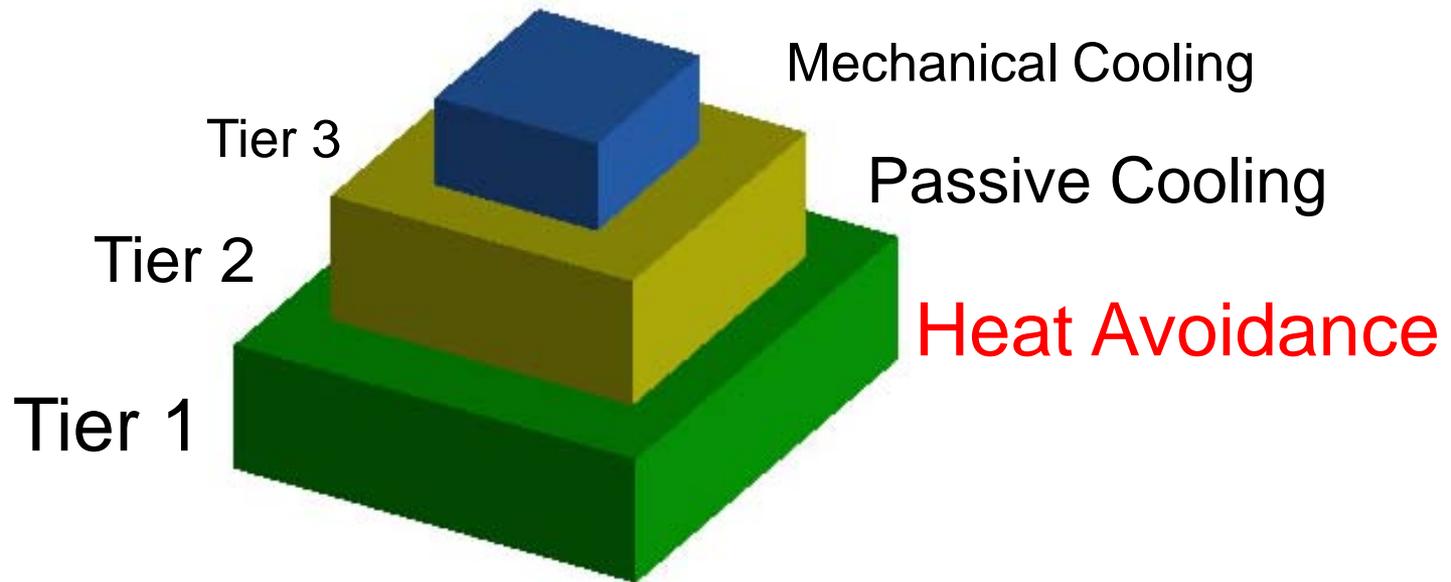


Landfill gas



# Reduce loads: **Passive Strategies**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon for **COOLING**:



Maximize the amount of energy required for mechanical cooling that comes from renewable sources.

**Source:** Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

# Passive Cooling Strategies:

## Heat Avoidance

1. shade windows from the sun during hot months
2. design materials and plantings to cool the local microclimate
3. locate trees and trellis' to shade east and west façades during morning and afternoon low sun

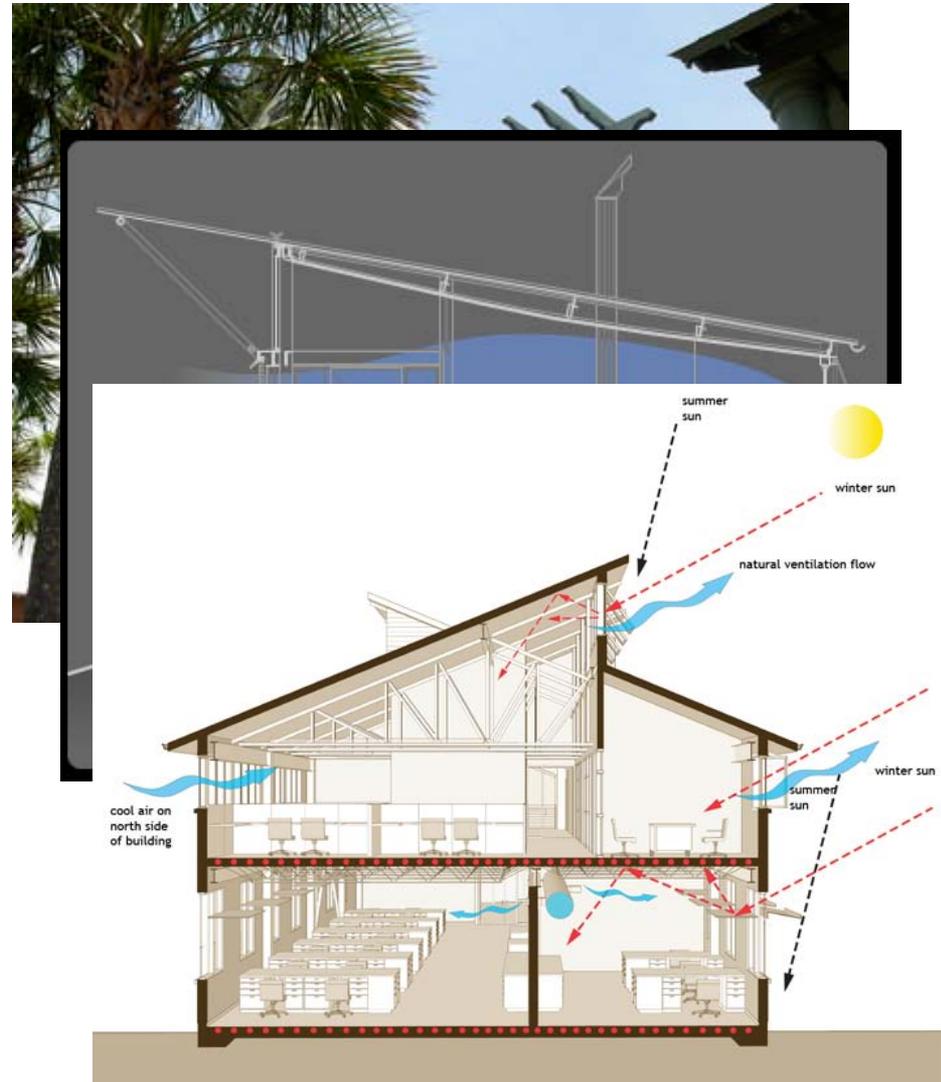


If you don't invite the heat in, you don't have to get rid of it.....

# Passive Cooling Strategies:

## Passive Cooling

1. design for maximum ventilation
2. keep plans as open as possible for unrestricted air flow
3. use easily operable windows at low levels with high level clerestory windows to induce stack effect cooling



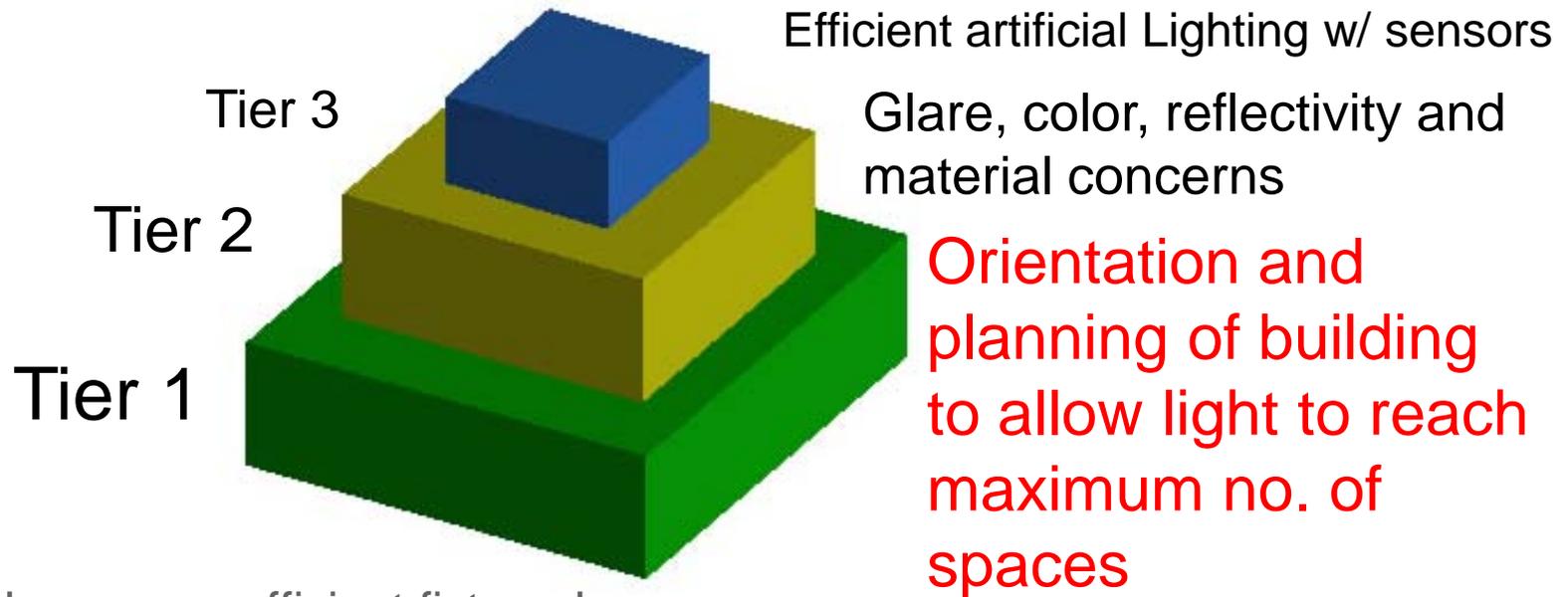
# Passive Cooling Strategies: Use Innovative Means for Cooling

1. wind cowls
2. solar chimneys
3. water features



# Reduce loads: **Daylighting**

The tiered approach to reducing carbon with **DAYLIGHTING**:



Use energy efficient fixtures!

Maximize the amount of energy/electricity required for artificial lighting that comes from renewable sources.

Source: Lechner. Heating, Cooling, Lighting.

# Passive Lighting Strategies:

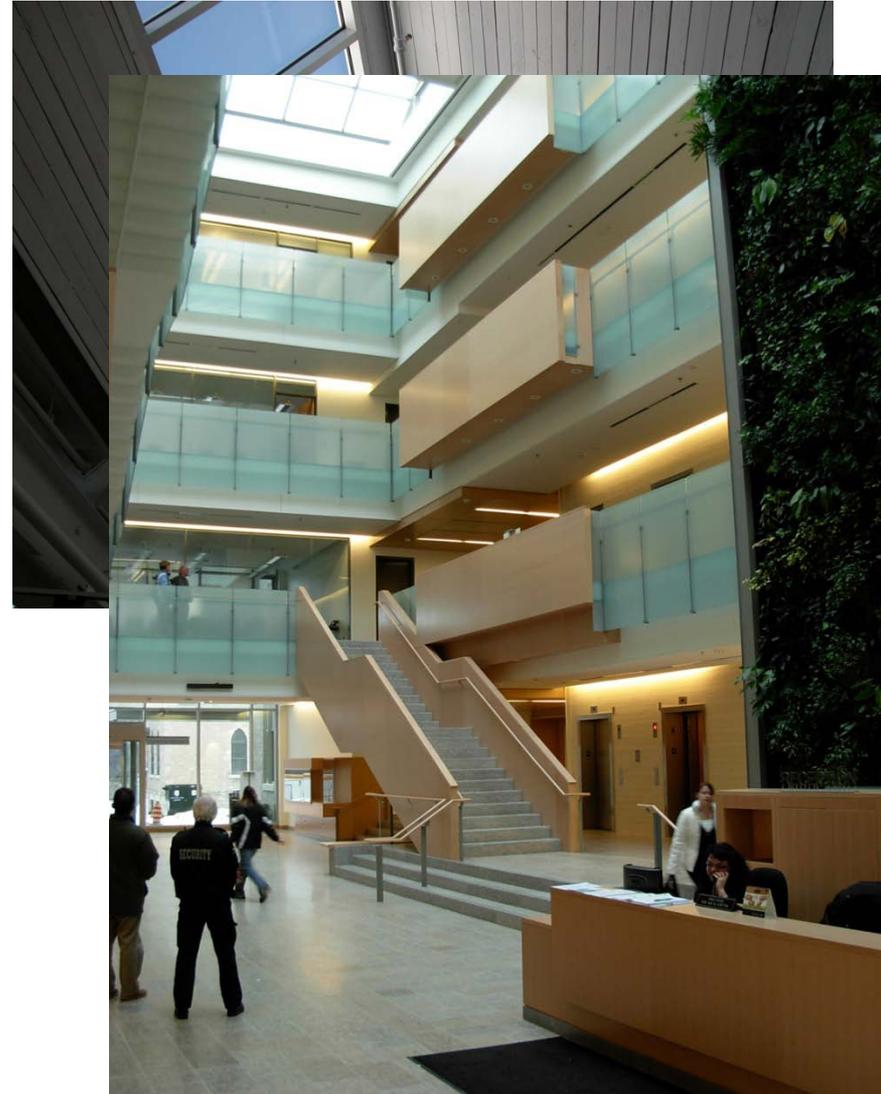
## Orientation and building planning

- start with solar geometry
- understand context, sky dome, adjacent buildings and potential overshadowing
- be able to differentiate between sunlight (heat) and daylight (seeing)
- understand occupancy/use requirements
- maximize areas served by daylight
- explore different glazing strategies: side, clerestory, top
- consider light shelves and reflected light

# Passive Lighting Strategies:

## Glare, color, reflectivity and materials

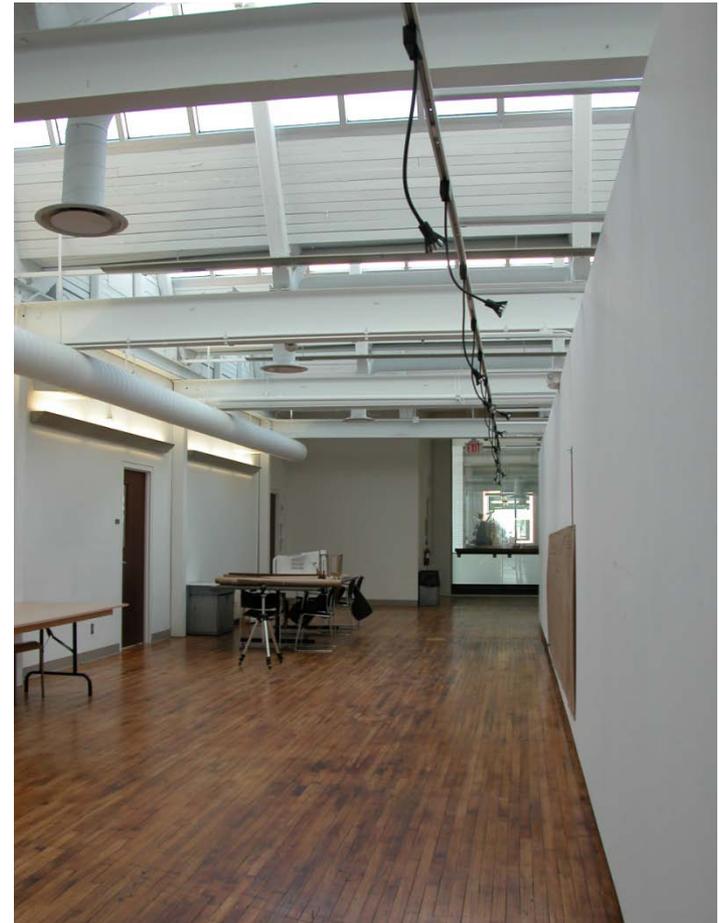
- incorporate light dynamics
- avoid glare
- understand the function of material selection; ie. reflectivity and surface qualities
- balance color and reflectivity with amount of daylight provided



# Passive Lighting Strategies:

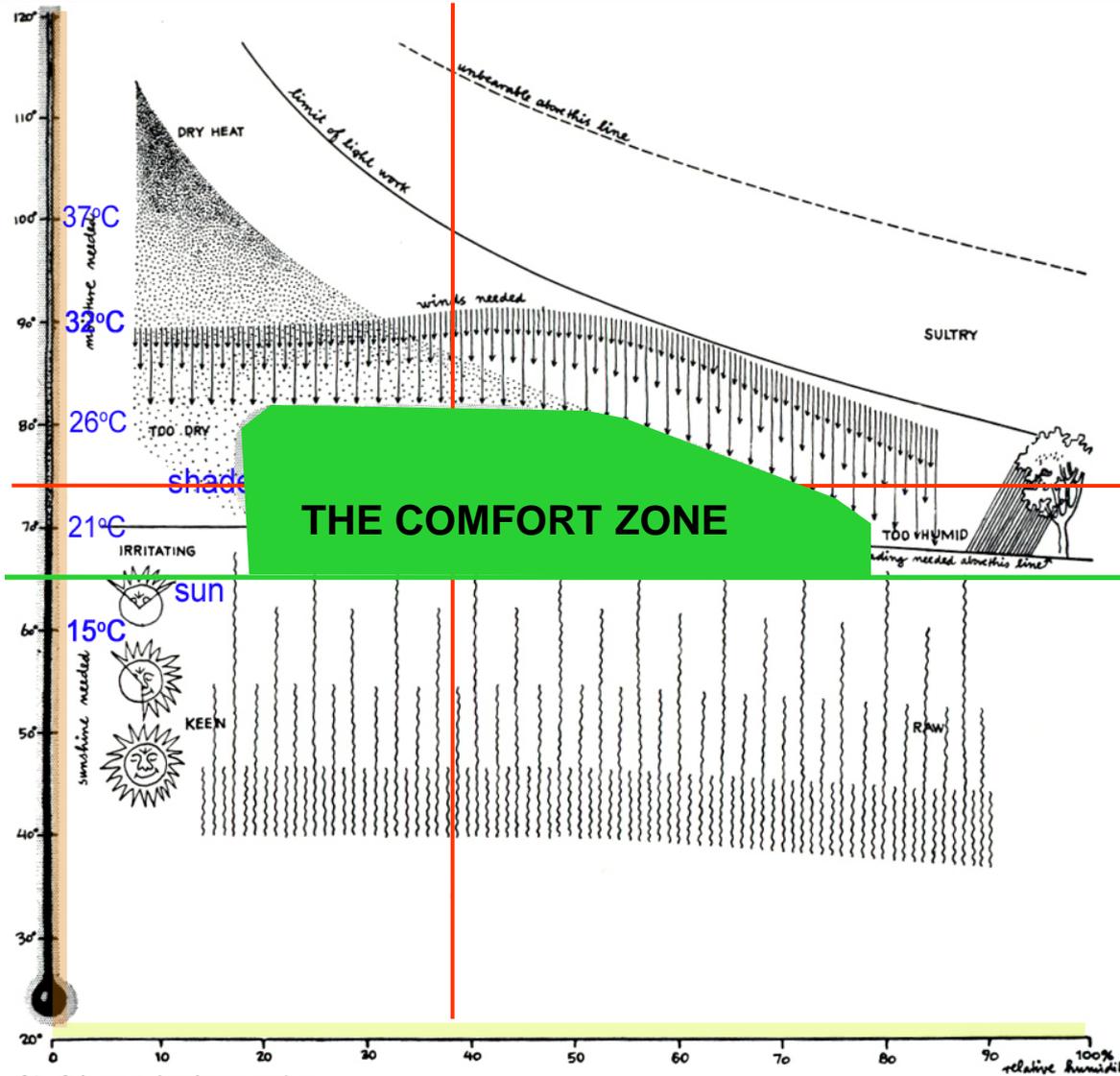
## Energy efficiency and renewables

- use energy efficient light fixtures (and effectively!)
- use occupant sensors combined with light level sensors
- aim to only have lights switch on only when daylight is insufficient
- provide electricity via renewable means: wind, PV, CHP



Lights on due to occupant sensors when there is adequate daylight – WASTES ENERGY!

# Designing to the Comfort Zone vs. Comfort Point:



46. Schematic bioclimatic index.

This famous illustration is taken from “Design with Climate”, by Victor Olgyay, published in 1963.

This is the finite point of expected comfort for 100% mechanical heating and cooling.

To achieve CN, we must work within the broader area AND **DECREASE** the “line” to 18C – point of calculation of heating degree days.

# Passive Bio-climatic Design: COMFORT ZONE

Comfort expectations may have to be reassessed to allow for the wider “zone” that is characteristic of buildings that are not exclusively controlled via mechanical systems.

Creation of new “**buffer spaces**” to make a hierarchy of comfort levels within buildings.

Require **higher occupant involvement** to adjust the building to modify the temperature and air flow.

**Climate as the Starting Point  
for a  
Climate Responsive Design**

# North American Bio-climatic Design:

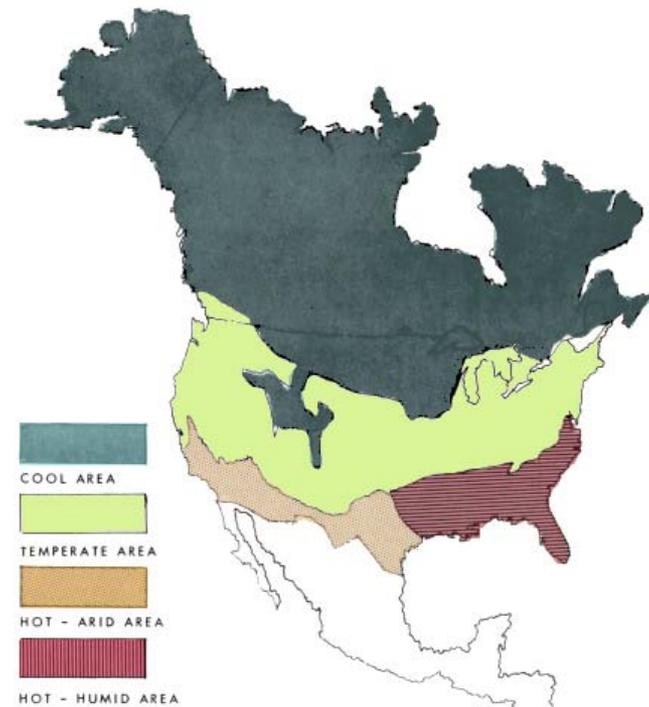
Design must first acknowledge regional, local and microclimate impacts on the building and site.

**COLD**

**TEMPERATE**

**HOT-ARID**

**HOT-HUMID**

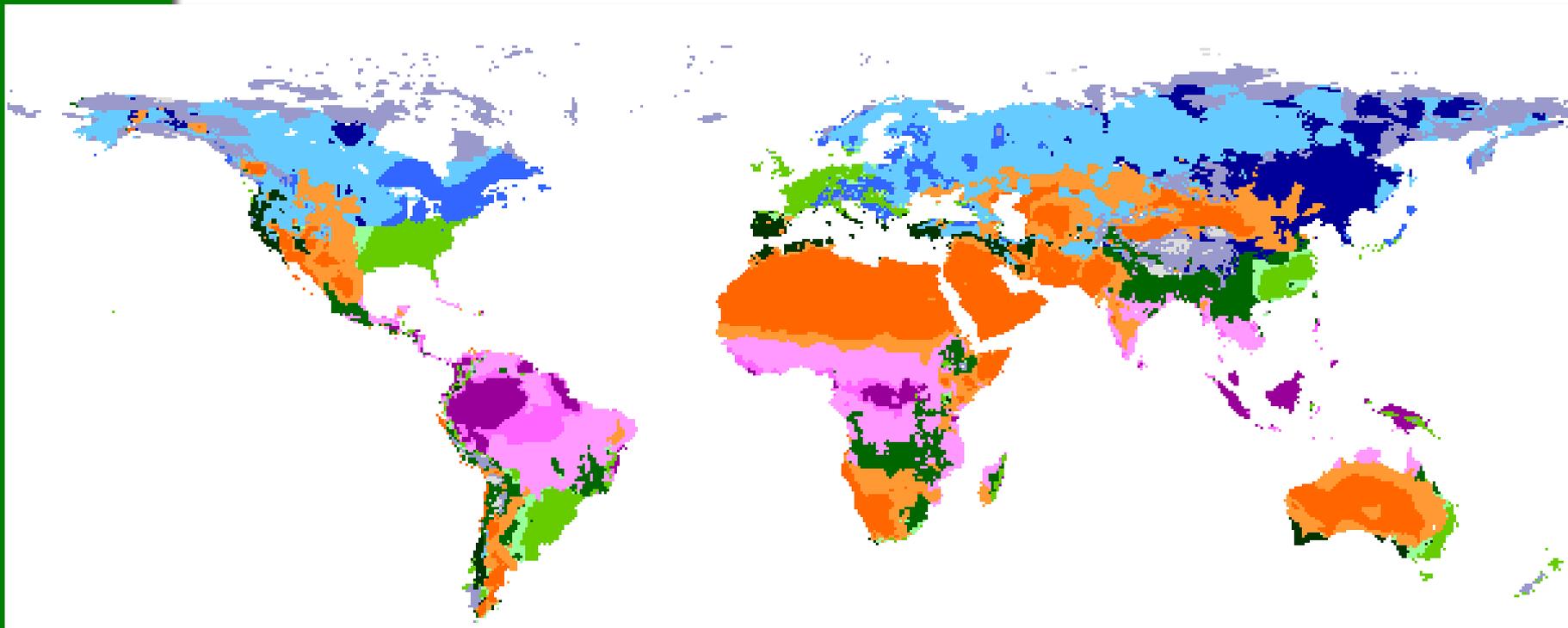


11. Regional climate zones of the North American continent.

Image: 1963 "Design With Climate", Victor Olgay.

# Global Bio-climatic Design:

Design must first acknowledge regional, local and microclimate impacts on the building and site.

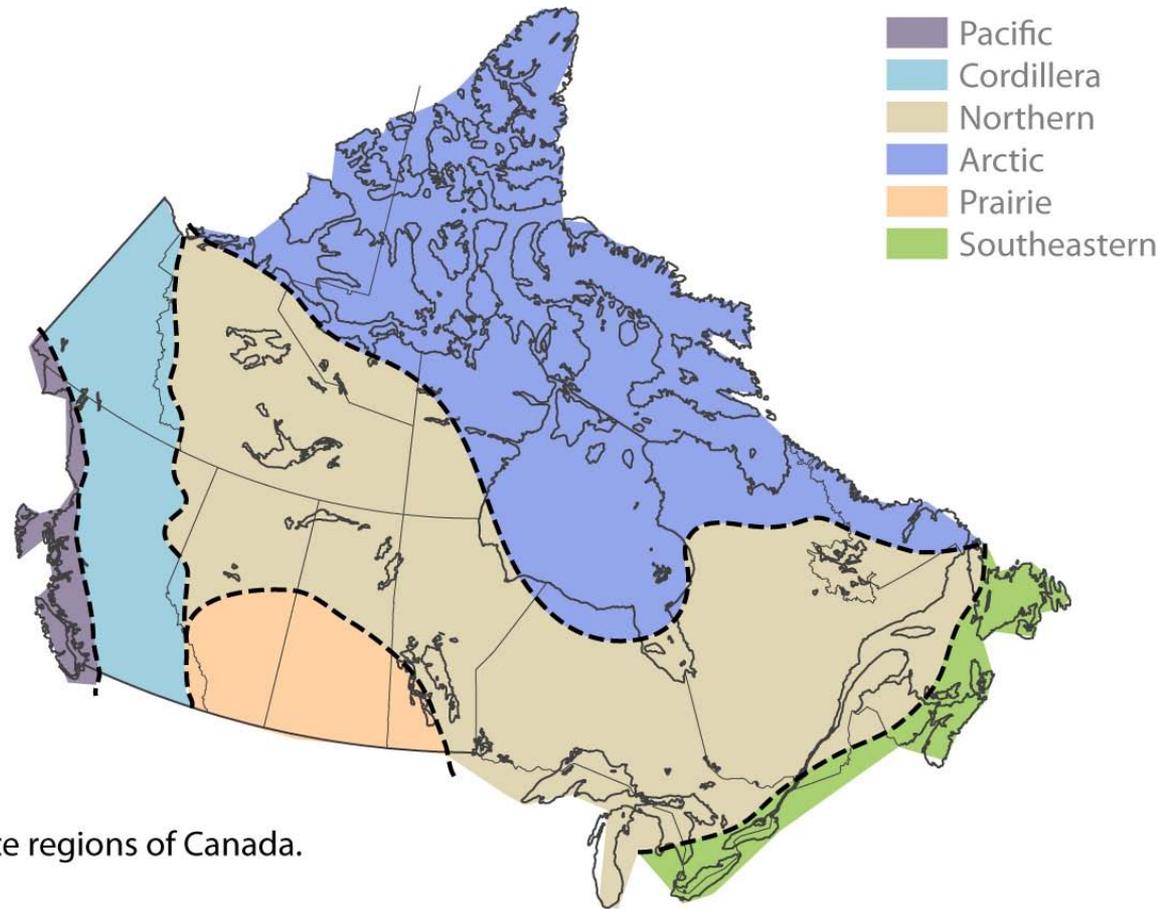


## Koeppen's Climate Classification

by FAO - SDRN - Agrometeorology Group - 1997



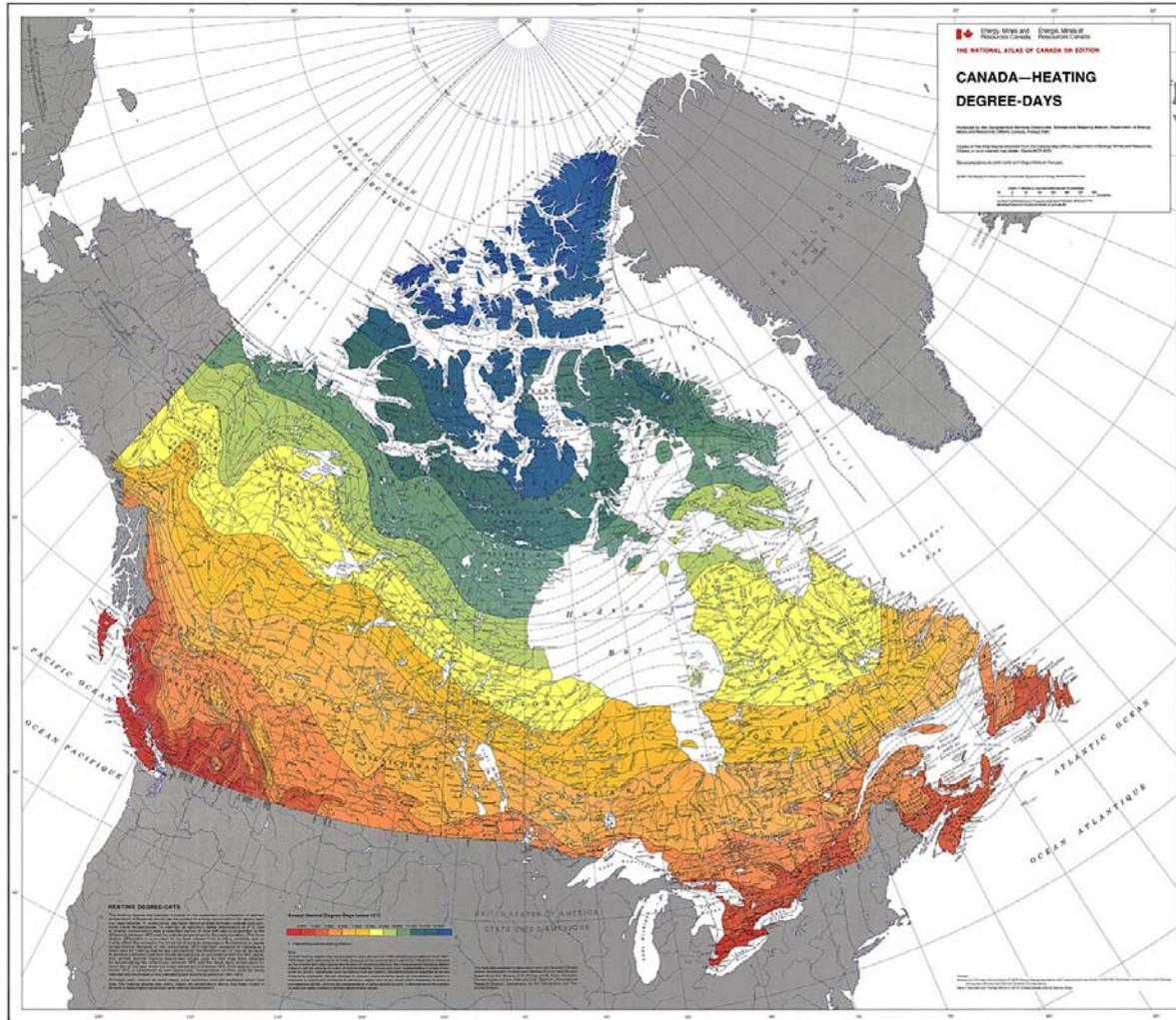
# The climate regions of Canada



Climate regions of Canada.

Even within Canada, there exist variations in climate, enough to require very different envelope design practices and regulations. This mostly concerns insulation and water penetration, as well as humidity concerns.

# Heating and Cooling Degree Days



This map shows the annual sum of heating degree days (an indicator of building heating needs). Data for period 1941 to 1970. **Determine if the climate is heating or cooling dominated** ...this will set out your primary strategy.

# The Goal is Reduction



CLIMATE AS THE STARTING POINT  
FOR RETHINKING ARCHITECTURAL  
DESIGN

# Bio-climatic Design: **HOT-ARID**

Where **very high summer temperatures** with great fluctuation predominate with **dry conditions** throughout the year. **Cooling degrees days** greatly exceed heating degree days.

## **RULES:**

- SOLAR AVOIDANCE: keep DIRECT SOLAR GAIN out of the building
- avoid daytime ventilation
- promote nighttime flushing with cool evening air
- achieve daylighting by reflectance and use of LIGHT non-heat absorbing colours
- create a cooler MICROCLIMATE by using light / lightweight materials
- respect the DIURNAL CYCLE
- use heavy mass for walls and DO NOT INSULATE



Traditional House in Egypt

# Bio-climatic Design: **HOT-HUMID**

Where **warm to hot** stable conditions predominate with **high humidity** throughout the year. **Cooling degrees days** greatly exceed heating degree days.

## **RULES:**

- **SOLAR AVOIDANCE** : large roofs with overhangs that shade walls and to allow windows open at all times
- **PROMOTE VENTILATION**
- **USE LIGHTWEIGHT MATERIALS** that do not hold heat and that will not promote condensation and dampness (mold/mildew)
- *eliminate basements and concrete*
- use STACK EFFECT to ventilate through high spaces
- use of COURTYARDS and semi-enclosed outside spaces
- use WATER FEATURES for cooling



House in Seaside, Florida

# Bio-climatic Design: TEMPERATE

The summers are hot and humid, and the winters are cold. In much of the region the topography is generally flat, allowing cold winter winds to come in from the northwest and cool summer breezes to flow in from the southwest.

**The four seasons are almost equally long.**

## **RULES:**

- BALANCE strategies between COLD and HOT-HUMID
- maximize flexibility in order to be able to modify the envelope for varying climatic conditions
- understand the natural benefits of SOLAR ANGLES that shade during the warm months and allow for heating during the cool months



IslandWood Residence, Seattle, WA

# Bio-climatic Design: COLD

Where **winter** is the dominant season and concerns for conserving heat predominate all other concerns. **Heating degree days greatly exceed cooling degree days.**

## RULES:

- First **INSULATE**
- exceed CODE requirements (DOUBLE??)
- minimize infiltration (build tight to reduce air changes)
- Then **INSULATE**
- **ORIENT AND SITE THE BUILDING PROPERLY FOR THE SUN**
- maximize south facing windows for easier control
- fenestrate for **DIRECT GAIN**
- apply **THERMAL MASS** inside the building envelope to store the FREE SOLAR HEAT
- create a sheltered **MICROCLIMATE** to make it LESS cold



YMCA Environmental Learning Centre,  
Paradise Lake, Ontario

# Reduce, Renew, Offset

And, a *paradigm shift* from the recycling 3Rs...

**Reduce** - build less, protect natural ecosystems, build smarter, build efficiently

**Renew** - use renewable energy, restore native ecosystems, replenish natural building materials, use recycled and recyclable materials

**Offset** - compensate for the carbon you can't eliminate, focus on local offset projects

**Net impact reduction of the project!**

source: [www.buildcarbonneutral.org](http://www.buildcarbonneutral.org)

# The Importance of Impact Reduction:

If the **impact** of the building is NOT reduced, it may be *impossible* to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> to zero. Because:

## Site and location matter.

- Design for bio-regional site and climate
- Orientation for passive heating, cooling and daylighting
- Brownfield or conserved ecosystem?
- Urban, suburban or rural?
- Ability to restore or regenerate ecosystems
- All determine *potential* for carbon sequestration on site



The buildings at IslandWood are located with a “solar meadow” to their south to take advantage of solar heating and daylighting.

## Disturbance is impact.

- Protect existing soil and vegetation
- Design foundations to minimize impact
- Minimize moving of soil
- Disturbance changes existing ecosystems, natural habitats and changes water flow and absorption
- Disturbed soil releases carbon
- Disturbance can kill trees, lowering site potential for carbon reduction
- Look at the potential for reusing materials on site



Difficult foundations for a tree,  
sloped site for the Grand House  
Student Cooperative in Cambridge,  
Ontario, Canada

# Natural ecosystems sequester carbon.

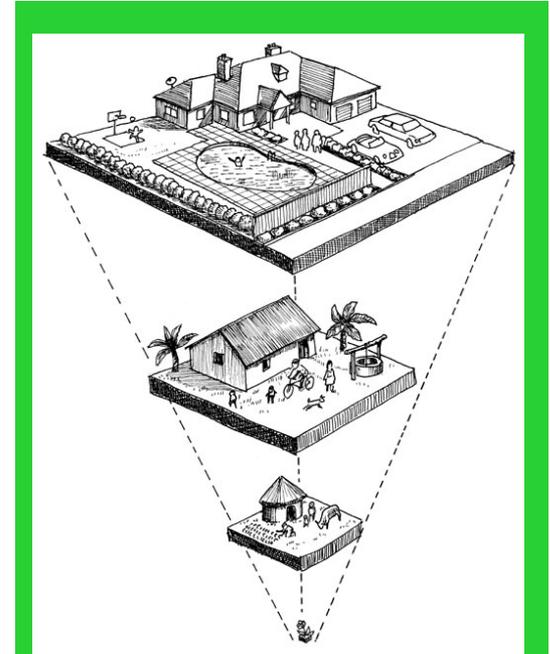
- Carbon is naturally stored below ground and is released when soil is disturbed
- Proper treatment of the landscape can keep this carbon in place (*sequestration*)
- Proper treatment of the landscape can be designed to store/accumulate/sequester more carbon over time
- Verify landscape design type with your *eco-region* – use of indigenous plant material requires less maintenance/water – healthy plants absorb more CO<sub>2</sub>
- Possible to use the natural ecosystems on your site to assist in lowering the carbon footprint of your project



**The natural site is preserved at IslandWood, Bainbridge Island.**

# Smaller is better.

- **Simple!**...less building results in **less** embodied carbon; i.e. **less** carbon from materials used in the project, **less** requirements for heating, cooling and electricity....
- Re-examine the building program to see what is *really* required
- How is the space to be used?
- Can the program benefit from more inventive double uses of spaces?
- Can you take advantage of outdoor or more seasonally used spaces?
- **How much building do you *really* need?**
- **Inference of LIFESTYLE changes**



Calculating your  
“ecological footprint”

... can naturally extend to  
an understanding of your  
“carbon footprint”

# Buildings can help to sequester carbon.

- The materials that you choose can help to reduce your carbon footprint.
- Wood from certified renewable sources, wood harvested from your property, or wood salvaged from demolition and saved from the landfill can often be considered net carbon sinks.
- Planting new trees can help to compensate for the carbon released during essential material transport
- Incorporating *green roofs* and *living walls* can assist in carbon sequestration



Green roof at White Rock Operations Center, White Rock, B.C.



Green roof at Vancouver Public Library

# Material choice matters.

- Material choice can reduce your building's *embodied* carbon footprint.
- Where did the material come from?
- Is it local?
- Did it require a lot of energy to extract it or to get it to your building?
- Can it be replaced at the source?
- Was it recycled or have significant post consumer recycled content?
- Can it be recycled or reused *easily*; i.e. with minimal additional energy?
- Is the material durable or will it need to be replaced (*lifecycle analysis*)?

**Note:** many of these concerns are similar to what you might already be looking at in LEED™



Foster's GLA – may claim to be high performance, but it uses many high energy materials.



Green on the Grand, Canada's first C-2000 building chose to import special windows from a distance rather than employ shading devices to control solar gain and glare.

# Reuse to reduce impact.

- Reuse of a building, part of a building or elements reduces the carbon impact by avoidance of using new materials.
- Make the changes necessary to improve the operational carbon footprint of an old building, before building new.
- Is there an existing building or Brownfield site that suits your needs?
- Can you adapt a building or site with minimal change?
- Design for disassembly (Dfd) and eventual reuse to offset future carbon use



The School of Architecture at Waterloo is a reused factory on a remediated Brownfield site.



All of the wood cladding at the YMCA Environmental Learning Center, Paradise Lake, Ontario was salvaged from the demolition of an existing building.

# Towards Zero Energy \ Zero Carbon:

LEED™ Gold



IslandWood

Early ZED



BEDZed

case studies

Jubilee Wharf



ZED

Aldo Leopold Legacy Center



Carbon Neutral

# Zero Energy Design

# The ZEDfactory Philosophy...

Key to the necessary paradigm shift required to go ZED, is a re-visioning of priorities for design.

*“Architects and engineers say that reaching a zero-energy goal necessarily requires a much more integrated design process than is typical for a conventional building.”*



Image credit: ZEDfactory

Current, unsustainable UK consumption

# BedZED: Beddington Zero Energy Development



BedZED, Hackbridge, England, was created as a partnership with the BioRegional Development Group, the Peabody Trust, Bill Dunster Architects, Arup, and Gardiner and Theobald. The 82 houses, 17 apartments, and 1,405 m<sup>2</sup> of workspace were built between 2000-02. An example of early ZED design.

**Climate:** temperate, inland

# BedZED: Beddington Zero Energy Development

*Starts with **basic** sustainable principles of design:*

- ORIENTATION
- very high environmental standards
- high thermal insulation levels
- triple glazed windows
- sunlight / daylighting
- solar energy (direct gain + PV)
- reduction of energy consumption
- natural ventilation
- waste water recycling
- strong emphasis on roof gardens
- built from natural, recycled, or reclaimed materials
- reduction in parking – pedestrian oriented
- re-allocation of site/use distribution for community's best interests



# BedZED: Then goes for Zero Energy....

## Density and General Site Strategies

### #1.

The development uses a higher density than typical.

### #2.

This separates parking from housing.

### #3.

And consolidates significant green space.



# BedZED: Alternative Parking/Car Strategies

## #1.

Designed to encourage alternatives to car use.

## #2.

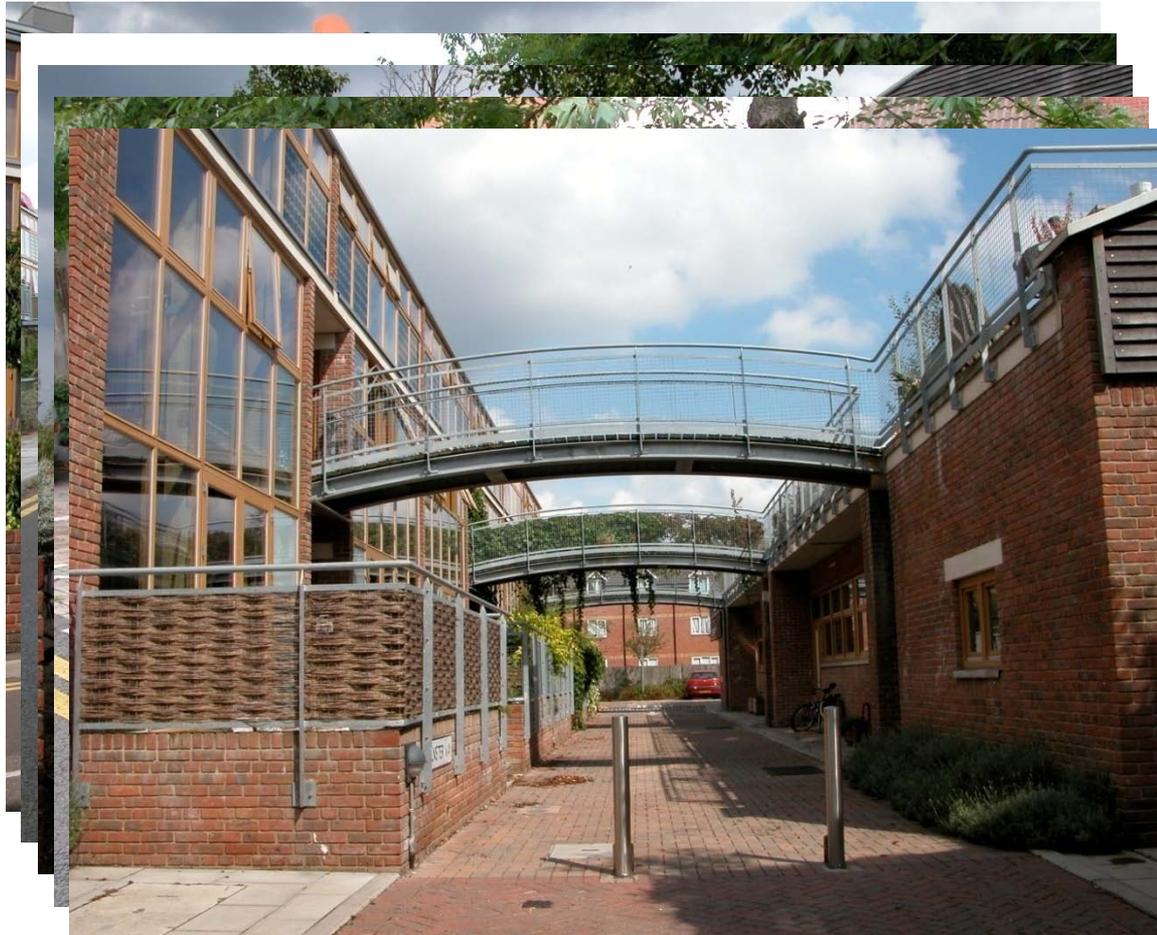
A green transport plan promotes walking, cycling, and use of public transport.

## #3.

A car pool for residents has been established. BedZED's target is a 50% reduction in fossil-fuel consumption by private car use over the next 10 years compared with a conventional development.

## #4.

A "pedestrian first" policy with good lighting, drop curbs for prams (strollers) and wheelchairs, and a road layout that keeps vehicles to walking speed.



# BedZED: Landscape and Vegetation

## #1.

Green space divided into large communal spaces + personal gardens/terraces.

## #2.

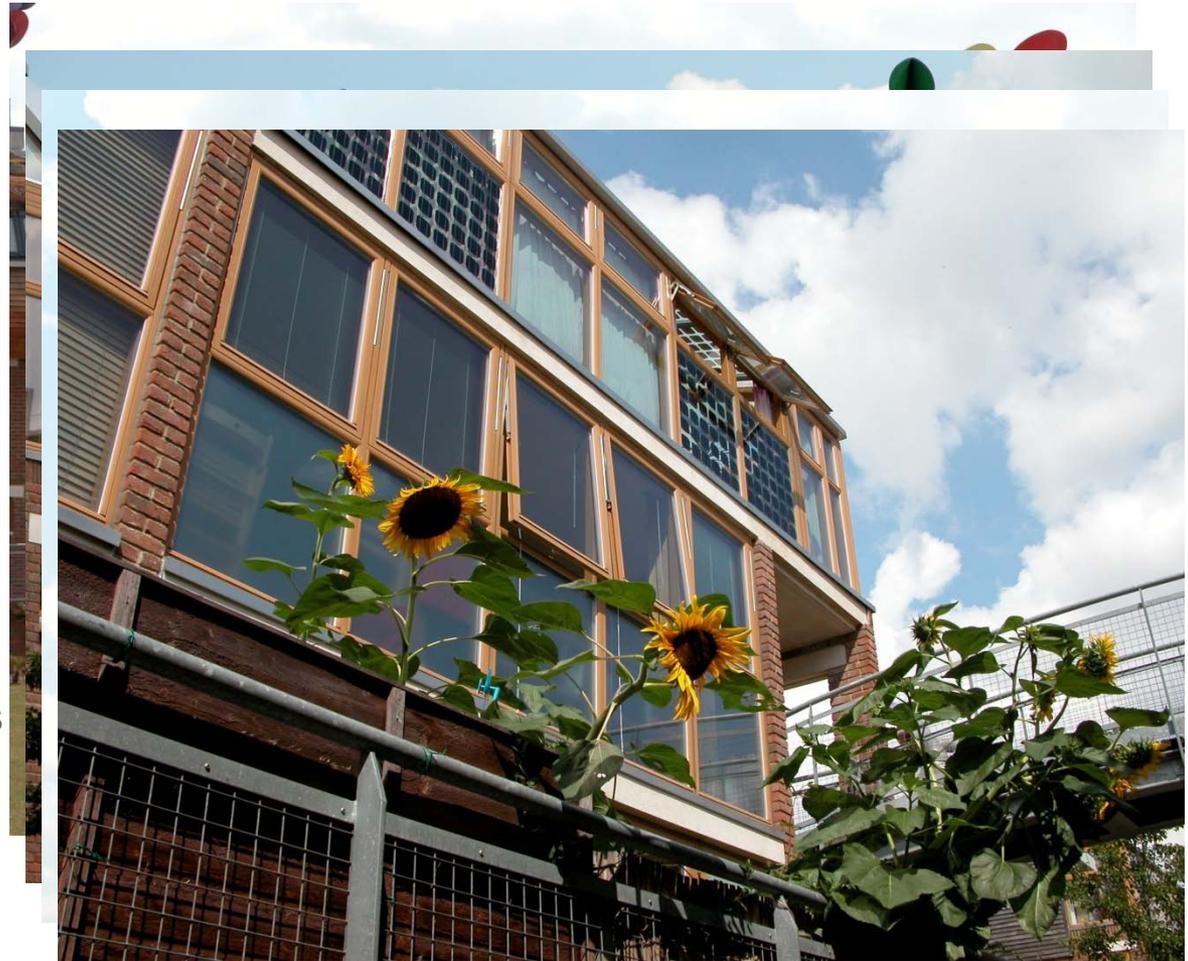
Green space at grade assists in lowering overall overheating in summer.

## #3.

Green space at the roof level is private, and also incorporates sedum roofs.

## #4.

Vegetable and edible crops are encouraged.



# BedZED: Passive Solar Strategies

## #1.

Uses passive solar techniques to maximize heat gain for cool months

## #2.

Houses are arranged in south facing terraces to maximize direct solar gain

## #3.

Glass is maximized on south face (minimized on north side to prevent losses).



# BedZED: Passive Cooling Strategies

## #1.

Each terrace is backed by north facing offices, which reduces the tendency to overheat and the need for air conditioning.

## #2.

Large quantities of operable windows encourage natural ventilation.

## #3.

PV is used to shade windows.

## #4.

Wind cowls direct ventilation flow.



No A/C is provided.

# BedZED: Non-fossil fuel heating for space and water

*Once needs have been reduced passively...*

## #1.

A centralized heat and power plant (CHP) provides hot water, which is distributed around the site via a district heating system of super-insulated pipes.

## #2.

The CHP plant at BedZED is powered by off-cuts from tree surgery waste that would otherwise go to landfill.



The target was for zero fossil fuel use.

# BedZED: Material choices

## #1.

Embodied energy (a measure of the energy required to manufacture a product) was key in choosing materials.

## #2.

They were sourced within a 35-mile radius of the site when possible, reducing transportation energy.

## #3.

Recycled materials and high recycled content were key.



75 year minimum target design life.

# BedZED: Generation of on Site Electricity

## #1.

It was felt to be more efficient to generate electricity with the CHP facility.

## #2.

PV panels were targeted at fueling electric vehicles.

## #3.

PV was installed over 777m<sup>2</sup> and was also used for shading.



Excess electricity is sold back to the grid.

# BedZED: Water Systems

*Water use is carefully planned...*

## **#1.**

Rainwater is collected and used for irrigation and toilet flushing.

## **#2.**

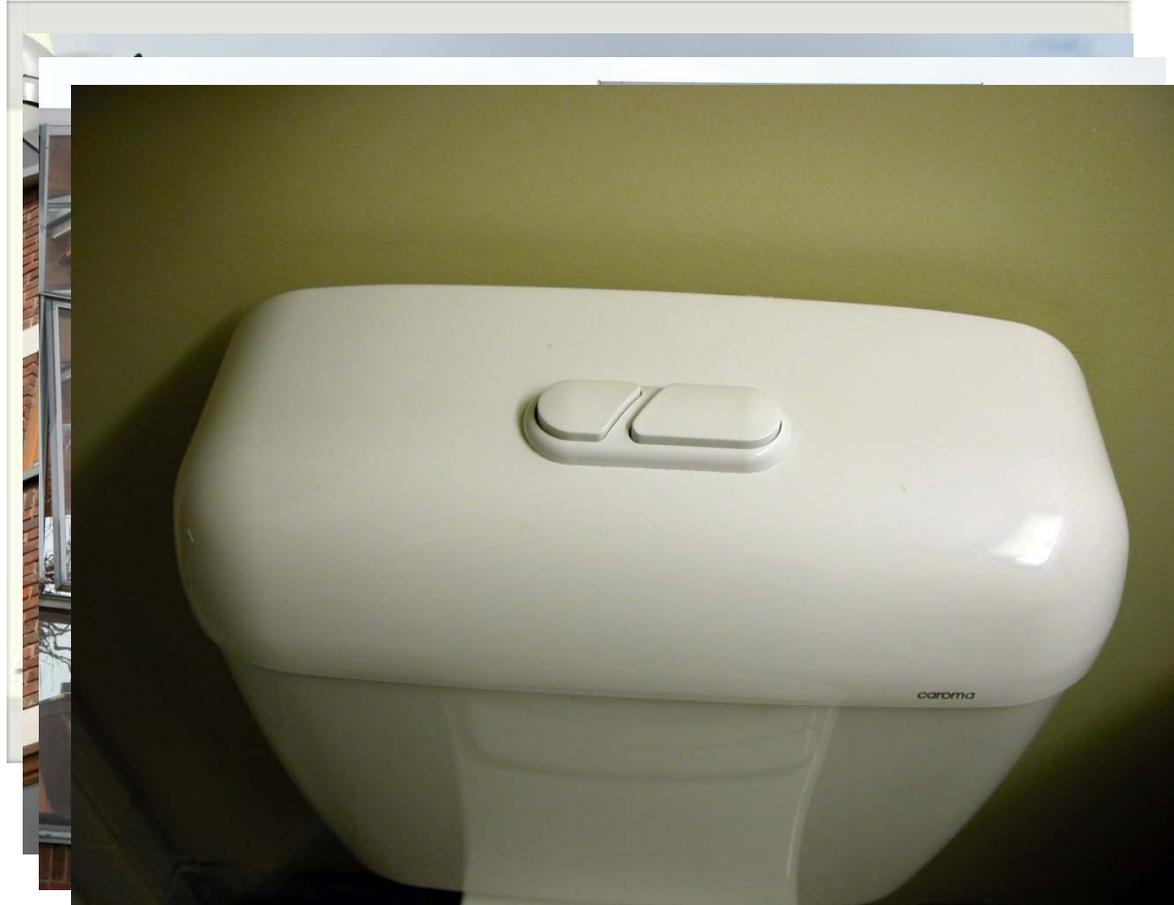
Black water is treated on site and cycled into the irrigation system.

## **#3.**

Dual flush toilets reduce water consumption.

## **#4.**

Shaped bathtubs reduce water requirement.



The target was to cut normal household use by 33%.

# BedZED: Waste Recycling

## #1.

Waste recycling collection depots are located throughout the community.

## #2.

Kitchens are outfitted with built in recycling storage.

## #3.

On site composting.



The target was to reduce landfill waste by 66%.

# BedZED: Integrated Design Process

## KEY WORKING CONCEPT:

Such a complex design with delicately inter-layered, synergistic systemic requirements mandates use of the *Integrated Design Process* from the early concept stages of development.

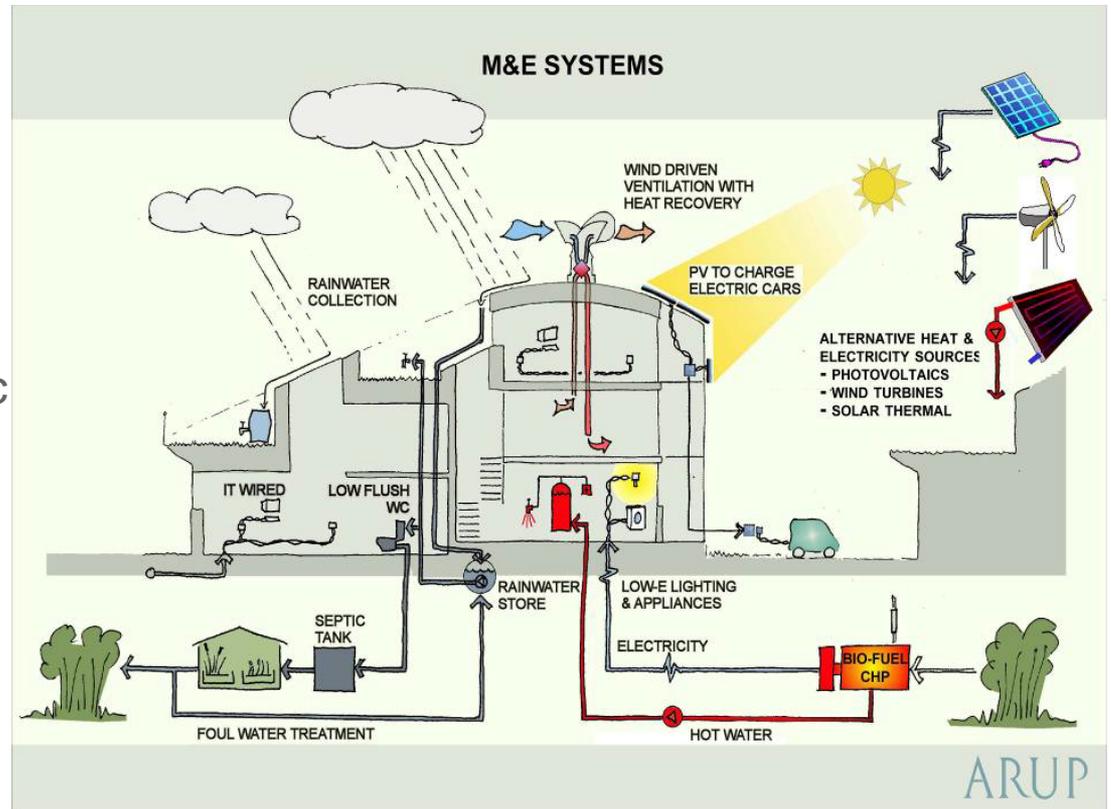


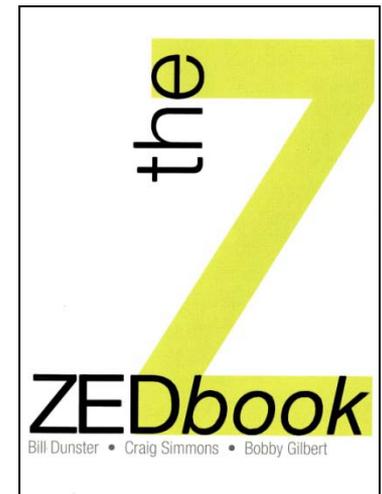
Image credit: ARUP and Dunster

Zero emission design requires strict adherence to a philosophy of conservation and cooperation.

# The ZEDfactory Philosophy...

Post BEDZed, ZEDfactory has set a list of priorities that are now incorporated into most designs:

- ✓ First consider the site, climate, solar angles
- ✓ Use brownfields
- ✓ Maximize density, while keeping green amenity space
- ✓ Keep a loose fit to allow for change, adaptation over time
- ✓ Design out the need to travel
- ✓ Minimize thermal and electrical requirements as it is easier to save electricity than to generate it
- ✓ Make an energy efficient envelope
- ✓ Use efficient appliances
- ✓ Use passive solar energy for heat and sun for daylighting
- ✓ Use natural ventilation
- ✓ Use wind cowls to assist natural ventilation
- ✓ Generate maximum renewable energy *from within the site boundaries*
- ✓ Incorporate wind turbines and PV
- ✓ Allow for upgrade paths if not all systems can be installed
- ✓ Use reclaimed or local materials



# Jubilee Wharf: ZEDfactory



**Architect:** ZEDfactory

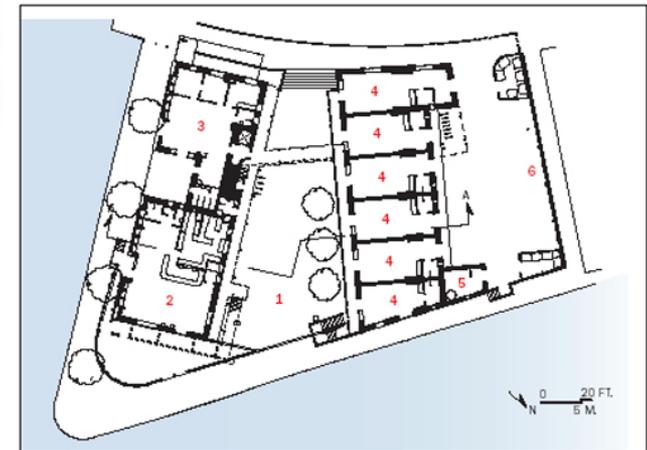
**Location:** Jubilee Wharf, Penryn, Cornwall

**Client:** Robotmother Ltd

**Description:** Mixed use with residential, workshops and nursery

**Start / Completion:** October 2004 - September 2006

**Climate:** temperate, coastal



GROUND FLOOR PLAN

- 1 Courtyard
- 2 Cafe
- 3 Community hall
- 4 Workshop
- 5 Boiler room
- 6 Parking

# Jubilee Wharf: Integrated Design Process

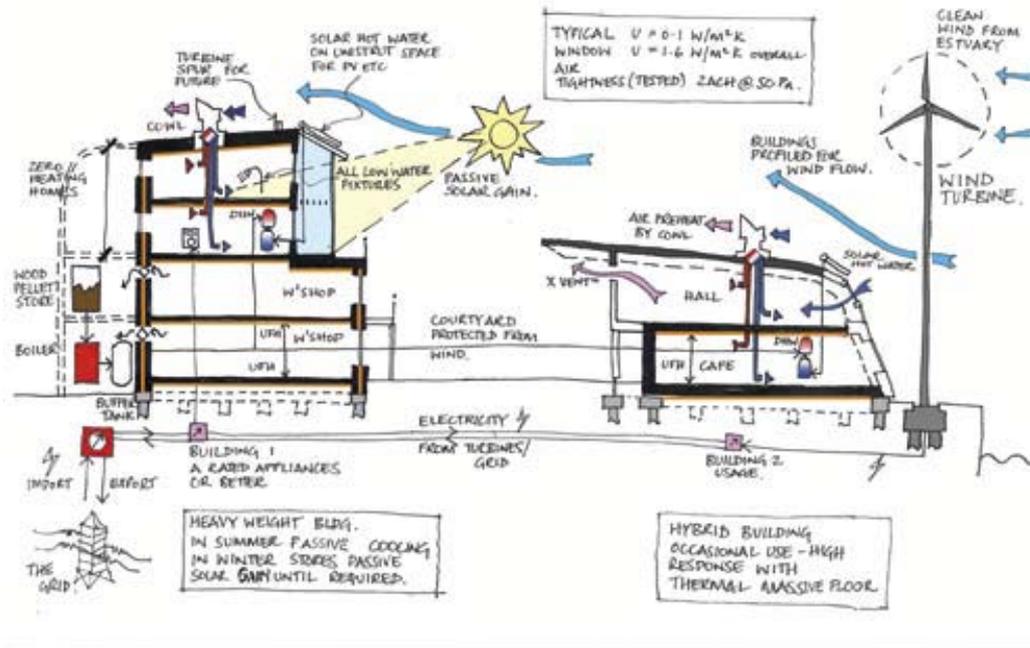


Image credit: ZEDfactory

The project begins with an integrated design approach that takes all of the key ZED concepts into account – from the beginning, starting with the sun, wind and climate.

The IDP diagram provides the basis for decisions throughout the project. It reveals how the building has been zoned by use – intensive residential use on the left, and occasional use on the right. This makes better use of the systems and site.

# Jubilee Wharf:

## Key Strategies List | Site and Community

### Brownfield Site –

The site was previously occupied by a coalyard.

**Community creation & revitalization** - a hub for craft makers, quality childcare onsite, health & fitness classes, café for socializing.

**Pedestrian and public transit oriented** - good public transport links, located in central Penryn for easy pedestrian access.



# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Envelope

## Super Insulation –

300mm insulation reduces energy consumption to less than half a conventional building. This level of efficiency is necessary to reduce consumption and make fossil fuel avoidance possible.

## Thermal Mass –

The interior surfaces are made from concrete block, concrete and plaster so that heat is stored efficiently.

## Air Tightness –

The interior surfaces are parged with plaster, making sure to seal all cracks between joining materials.

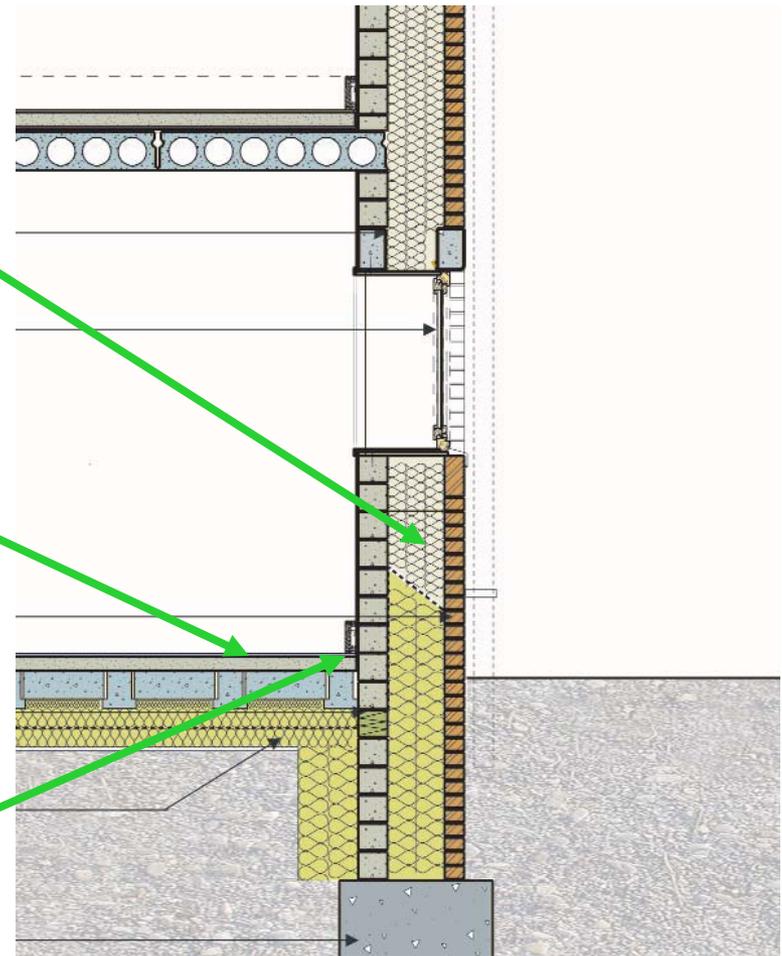


Image credit: ZEDfactory

# Jubilee Wharf:

## Key Strategies List | Reclaimed Materials

**Using local & reclaimed materials** - old floorboards, granite, Cornish cedar cladding and larch soffits, and some unused windows from BedZed

*For example:*  
The ceiling of the Yoga space is made of reclaimed floorboards from a Victorian house. The boards have not been changed but simply treated and cut to length.



**Image credit: ZEDfactory**

# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Healthy Materials

**Healthy materials** - low VOC paints, low formaldehyde floor coverings, natural fibers & surfaces, PVC only where unavoidable – with emphasis on creating a healthy environment.



# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Energy and Systems

## Passive solar heating –

The sun space faces south and is used as a buffer space. In cold months the thermal mass heats up. In hot months the space can be closed off to keep the interior cool. It also shades the interior space.

## Daylighting –

Window placement makes use of natural light.

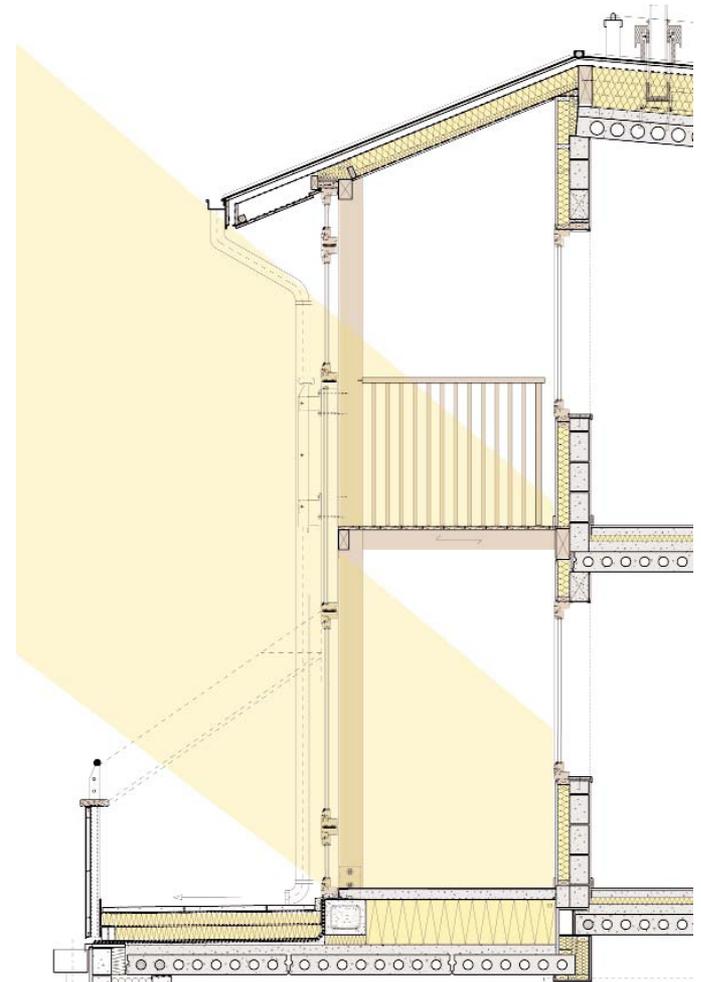
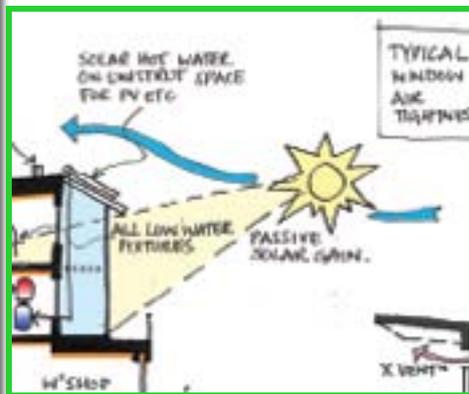


Image credits: ZEDfactory

# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Energy and Systems

## Natural ventilation –

Wind cowls ventilate without the need for electric fans.

*Being passive it uses no electricity.*

This displacement ventilation provides fresh air at low level and extracts air at the high level when the temperature of the air in the room has risen.

The cowl turns to face the wind drawing fresh air in via a heat exchanger which warms the incoming air with the outgoing air.

The heat exchanger is 70 - 80% efficient and minimizes heat loss from the building while providing a constant supply of fresh air.

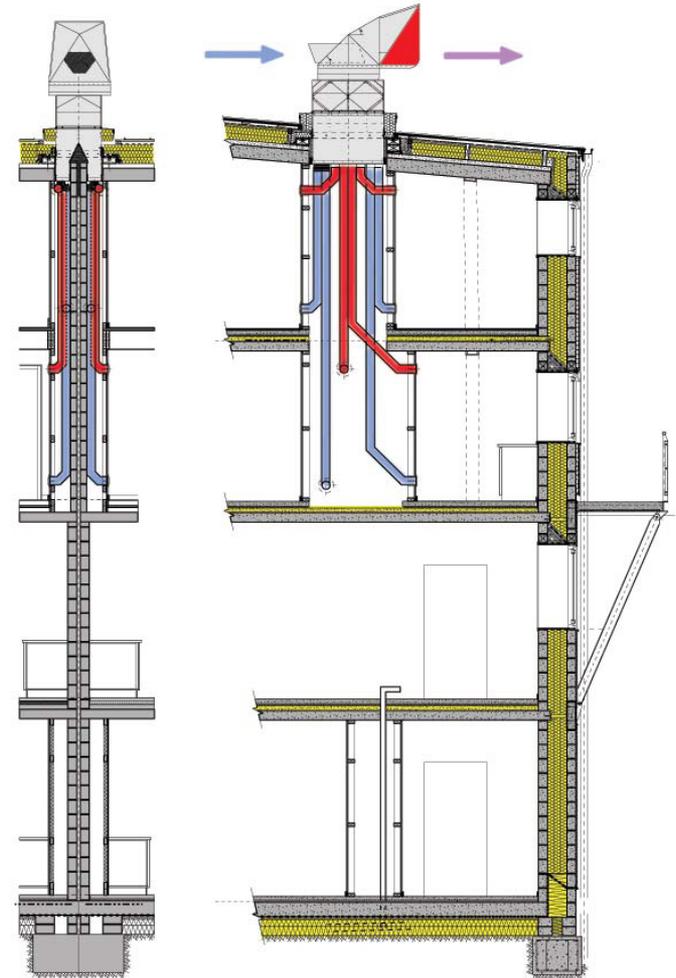


Image credit: ZEDfactory

# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Energy and Systems

## Solar panels –

The project uses evacuated tubes for water heating – one panel per residence.

## Photovoltaics –

Photovoltaic cells were not included in the original budget but provisions have been made for them to be fitted later.

## Reduced water consumption –

Low flush toilets, aerated taps, grade “A” consumption appliances.

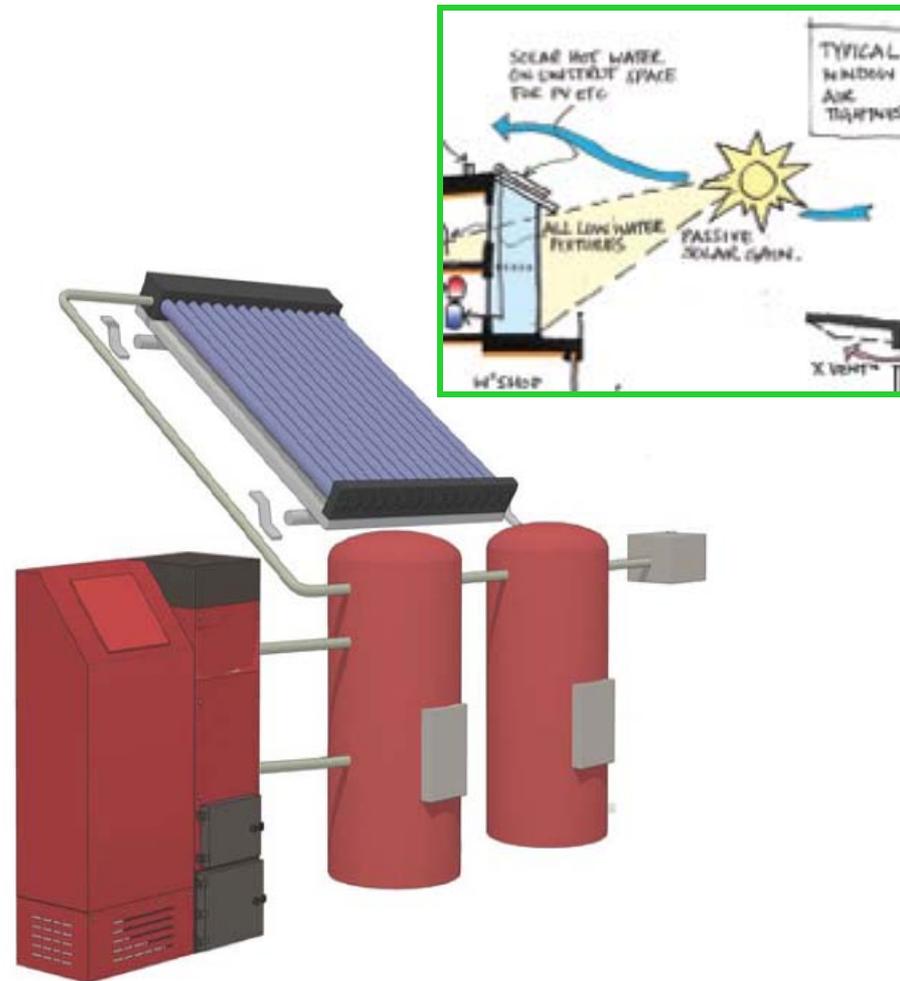


Image credits: ZEDfactory

# Jubilee Wharf: Key Strategies List | Energy and Systems

## Biomass heating –

Under floor heating and hot water from a 75kW wood pellet boiler.

## Onsite micro generation –

4 x 6kW Proven wind turbines provide most of the electricity – giving back to the grid or drawing from as required.

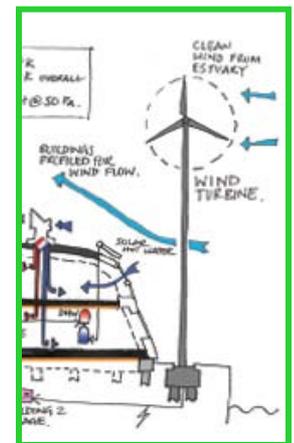
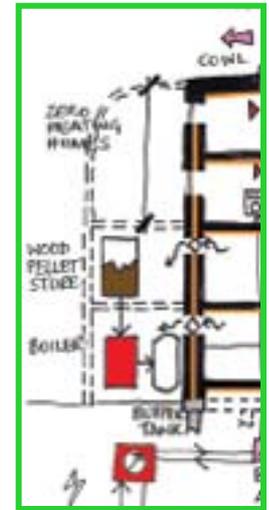


Image credits: ZEDfactory

# **Carbon Neutral – Operating Energy**

# Aldo Leopold Legacy Center

## Baraboo, Wisconsin



The Kubala Washatko Architects  
LEED™ Platinum 2007

Technical information from Prof. Michael Utzinger, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

# Leopold Approach to Carbon Neutral Design

- **Design a Net Zero (Operating Energy) Building**
- **Apply Carbon Balance to Building Operation (Ignore Carbon Emissions due to Construction)**
- **Include Carbon Sequestration in Forests Managed by Aldo Leopold Foundation**
- **Design to LEED™ Platinum (as well)**
- **with 2 unique starting points...**

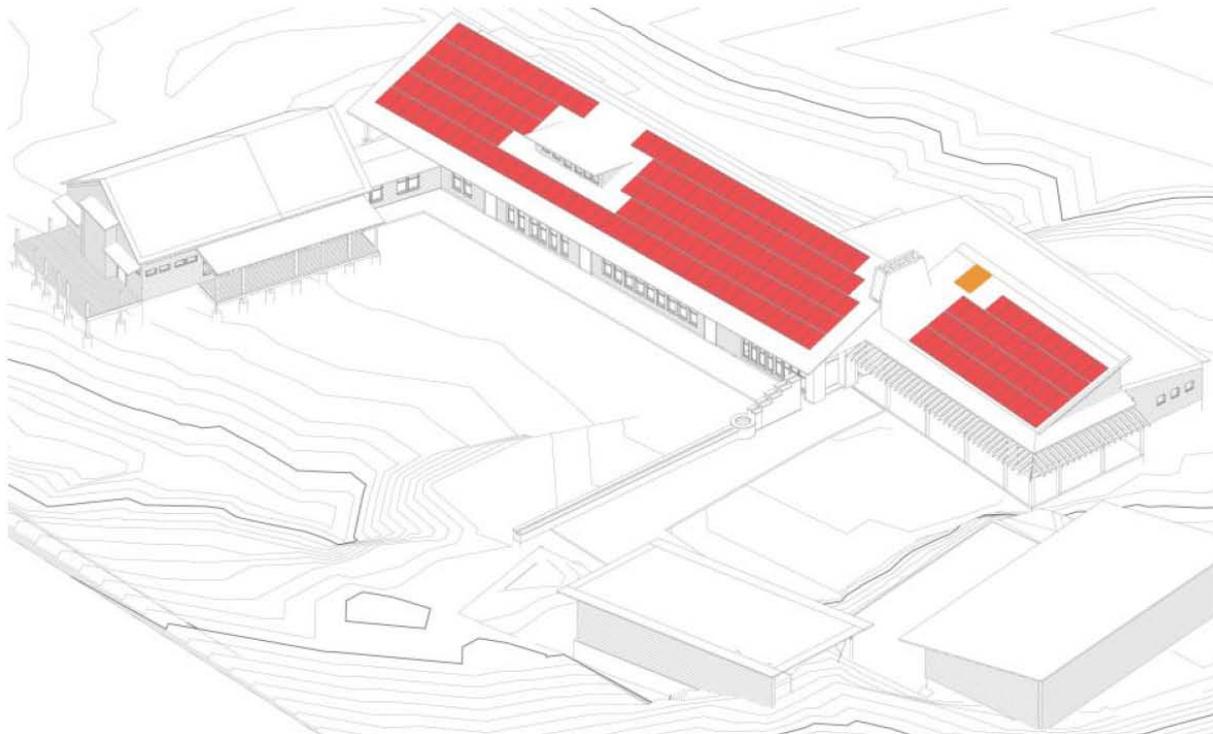
# #1 - Net Zero Energy Design

SOLAR PV DENSITY  
(conditioned s.f.)

**4.66** Watt / SF

SOLAR THERMAL DENSITY  
(conditioned s.f.)

**.012** SF / SF



Renewables  
+ Site  
Generation

A \$US250,000 PV array was included at the outset of the project budget and the building was designed to operate within the amount of electricity that this would generate.

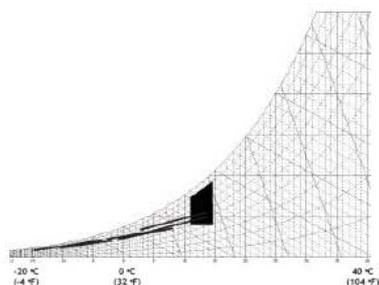
## #2 - Site Harvested Lumber:

Embodied  
Carbon in  
Building  
Materials

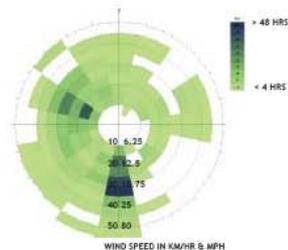


The building was designed around the size and quantity of lumber that could be sustainably harvested from the Leopold Forest.

# Climate Analysis



HEATING SEASON: OCT. - APR.

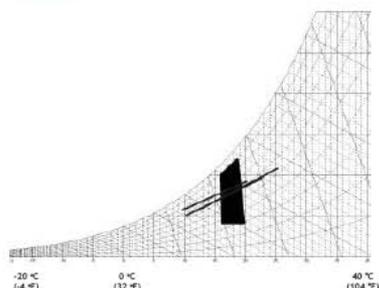


HEATING SEASON MONTH: JANUARY

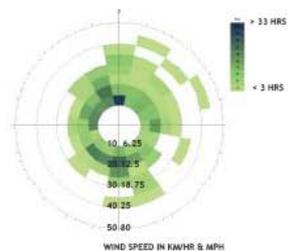
## Climate Narrative

Source: NOAA Weather Data Files

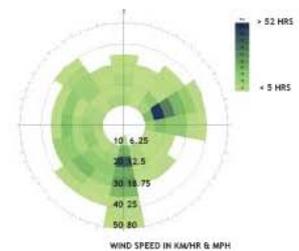
The climate is typical of the continental interior of North America with a large annual temperature range and with frequent short period temperature changes. The range of extreme temperatures is from about 43 to -40 degrees Celsius (110 to -40 degrees Fahrenheit). Winter temperatures (December-February) average near -7 °C (20 °F) and the summer average (June-August) is around 20 °C (in the upper 60s °F). Daily temperatures average below 0 °C (32 °F) about 120 days and above 4 °C (40 °F) for about 210 days of the year.



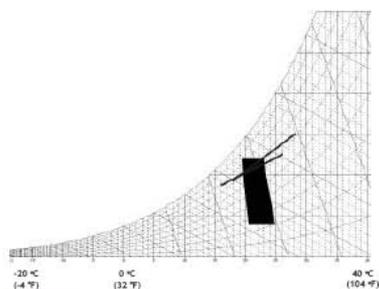
SWING SEASONS: MAY - JUN., SEP.



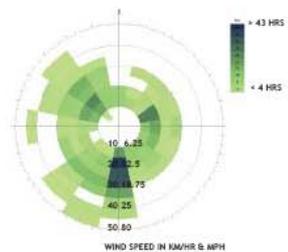
SWING MONTH: SEPTEMBER



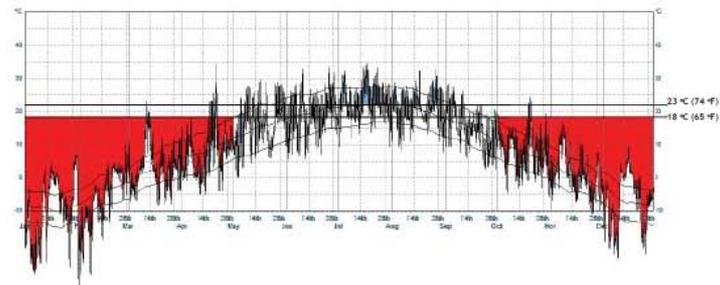
SWING MONTH: MAY



COOLING SEASON: JUL. - AUG.



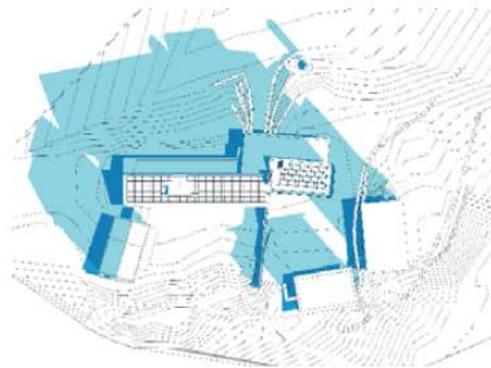
COOLING SEASON MONTH: JULY



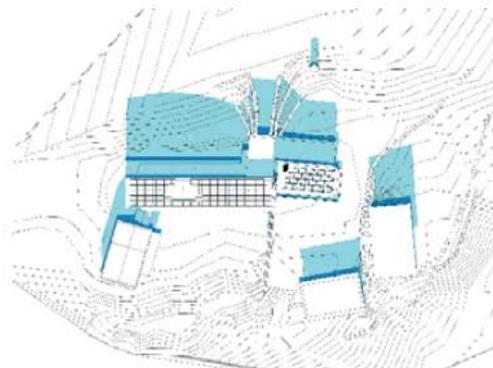
DAILY TEMPERATURE

Heating Degree Days (HDD): 7,643  
Cooling Degree Days (CDD): 139

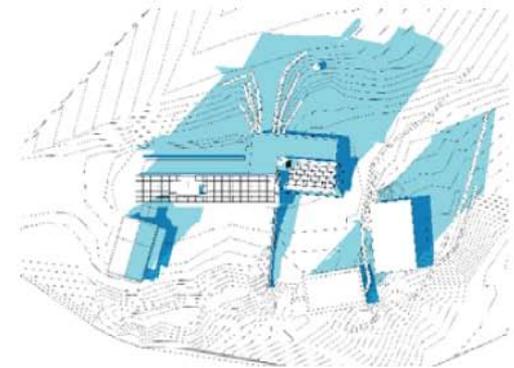
# Site Analysis



9:00 am



Noon



3:00 pm

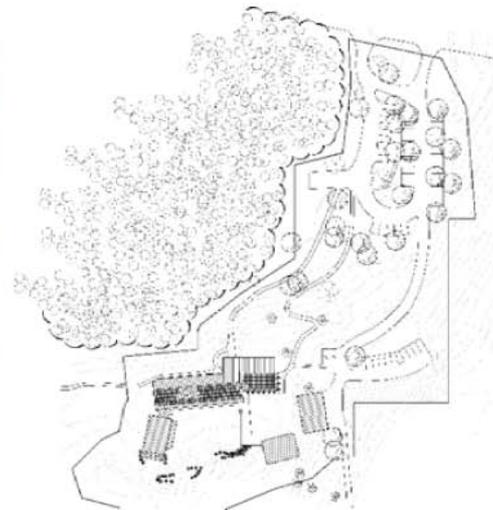
## Site Shading Study

■ June 21  
■ December 21



Aerial Image from South

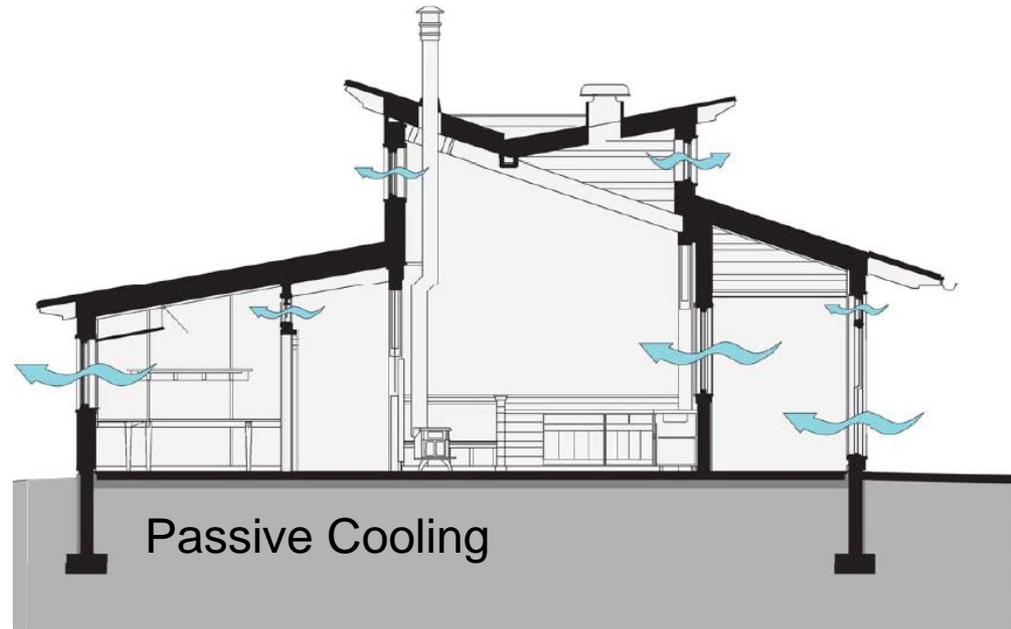
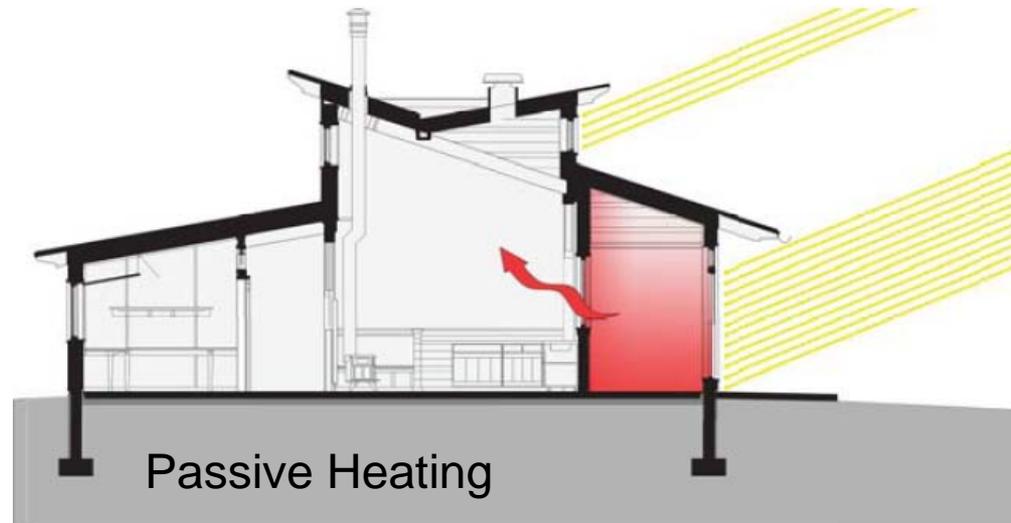
Source: \_\_\_\_\_



N

# Architectural Design Strategies

- Start with bioclimatic design
- Program Thermal Zones
- All perimeter zones (no interior zones – skin load dominated building)
- Daylight all occupied zones
- Natural ventilation in all occupied zones
- Double code insulation levels
- Passive solar heating
- Shade windows during summer



# Thermal Zones ~ Perimeter Zones



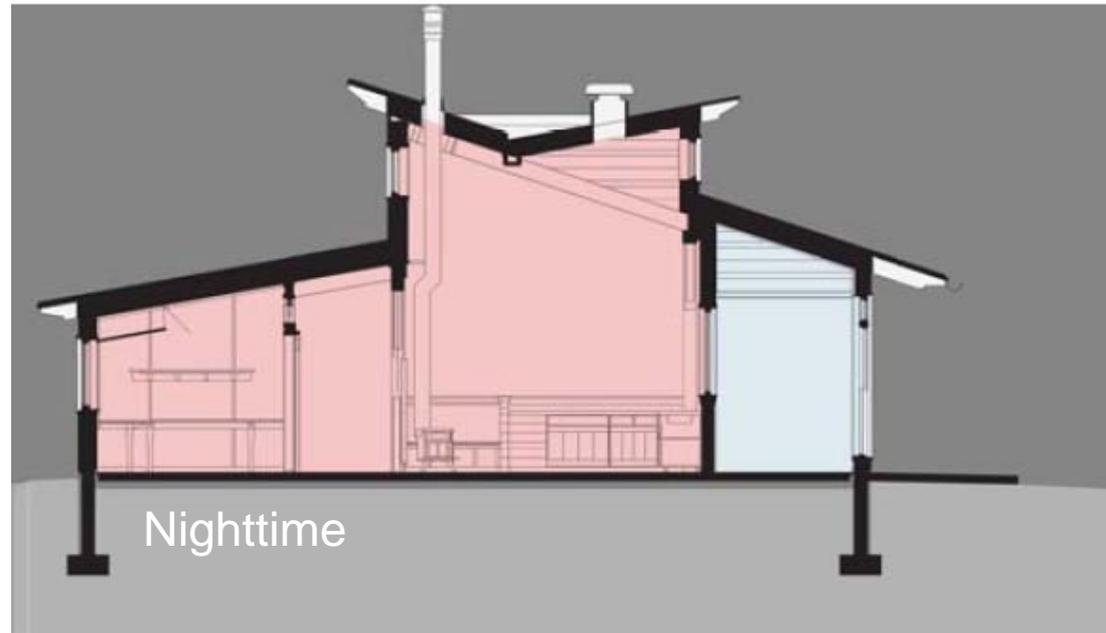
Keep the buildings thin to allow for maximum daylight and use of solar for passive heating.

# Passive Solar Heating

- The concrete floor in the hall is used with direct gain to store heat
- Large doors are opened to allow transfer to occupied spaces

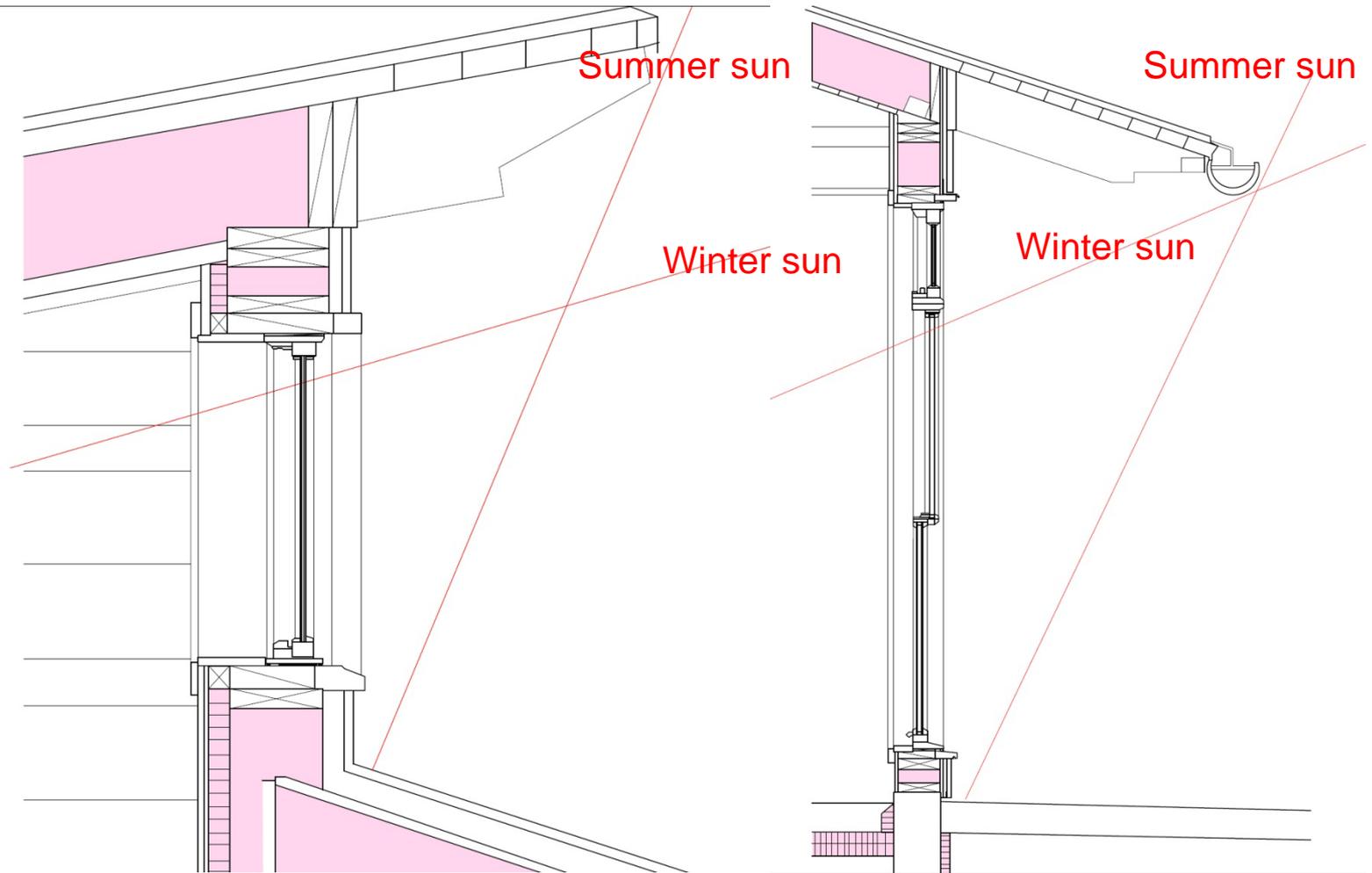


Daytime



Nighttime

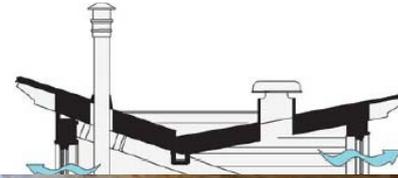
# Passive Cooling: Shade Windows During Summer



Basic first tier principle of HEAT AVOIDANCE.

# Natural Ventilation

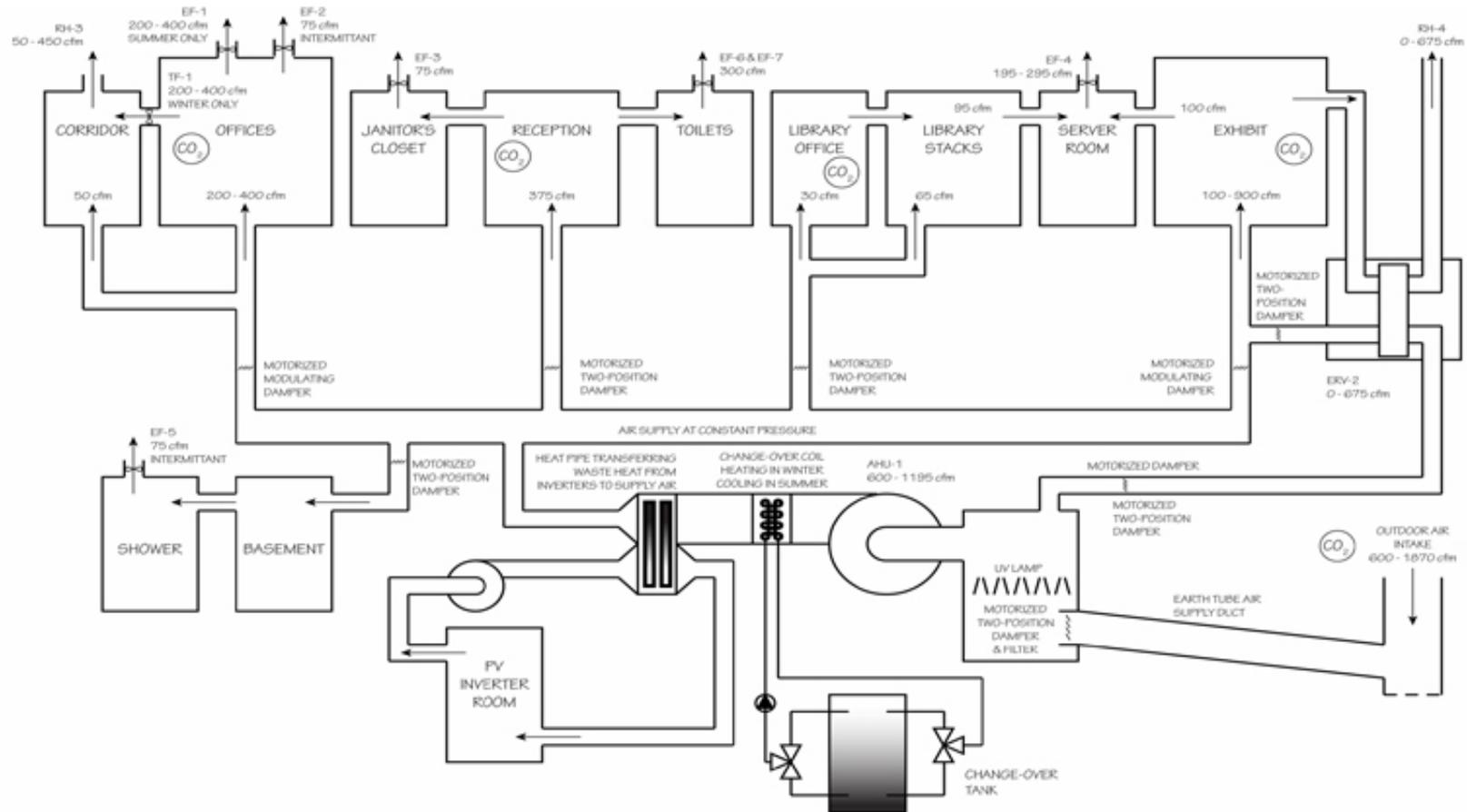
- Natural ventilation strategy based on NO A/C provision for the building
- Operable windows
- Flow through strategy
- Insect screens to keep out pests



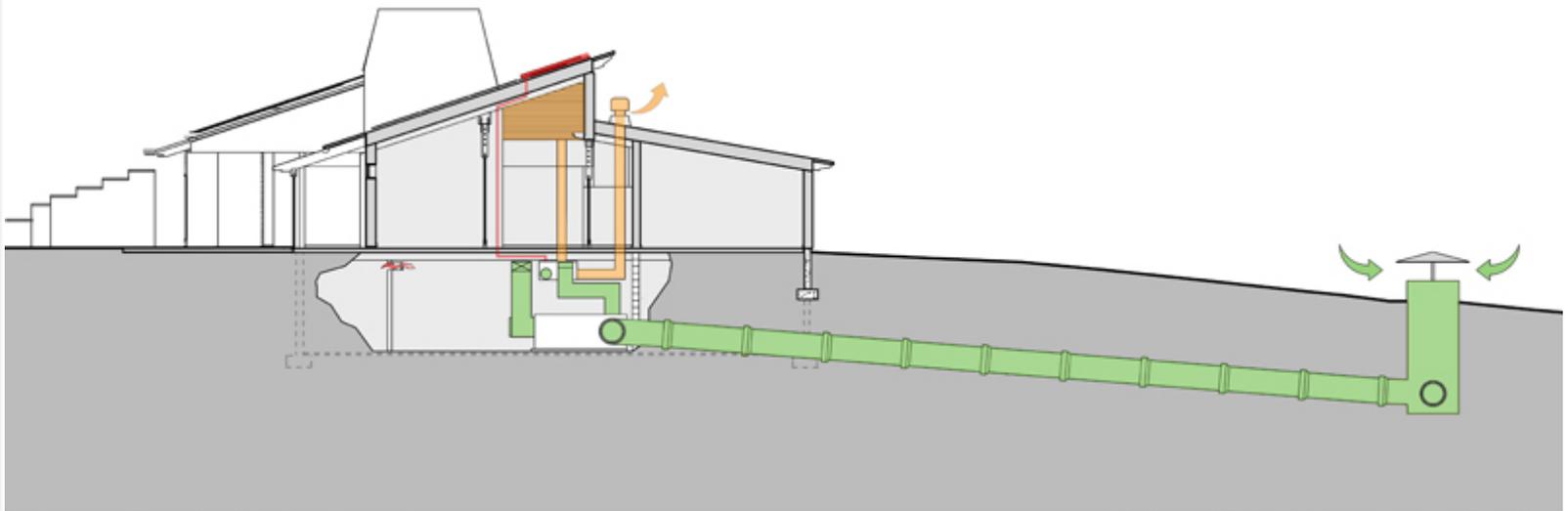
# HVAC Strategies

- Ventilate only to Occupant outdoor air requirements (2/3 ACH)
- 100% Outdoor air (no recirculation)
- Earth tube air pretreatment
- Demand Control Ventilation (600 to 2,500 cfm)
- Separate ventilation from heating and cooling
- Radiant floor slabs for heating and cooling
- Use ground as heat source & sink (ground source heat pumps)
- Storage tank as thermal capacitor between heat pumps & load
- Seasonal change-over system
- Solar heated service hot water

# Ventilation System



# Earth Duct for Air Pretreatment



Installation of large earth ducts to preheat and precool the air.

# Radiant Heating and Cooling

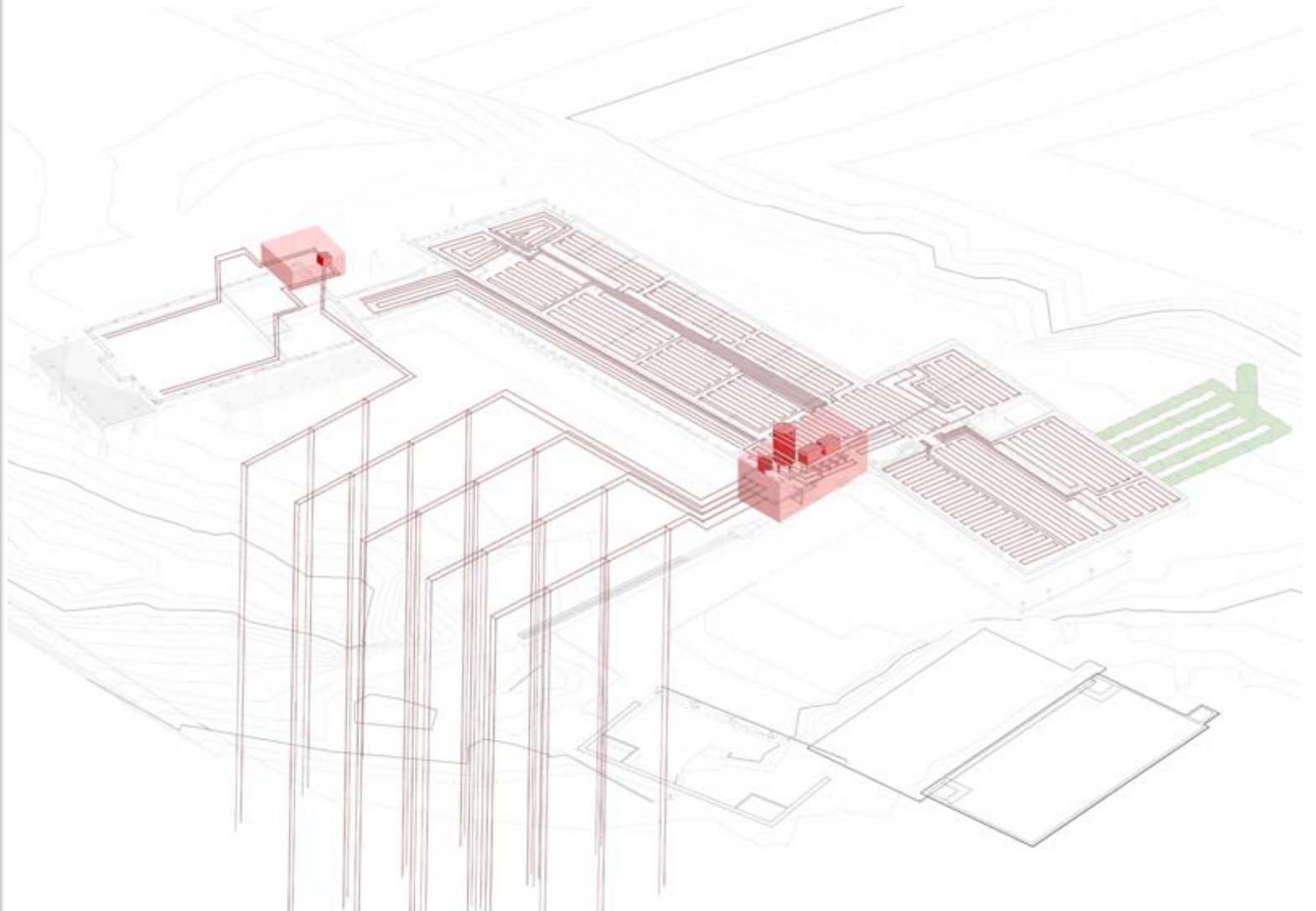


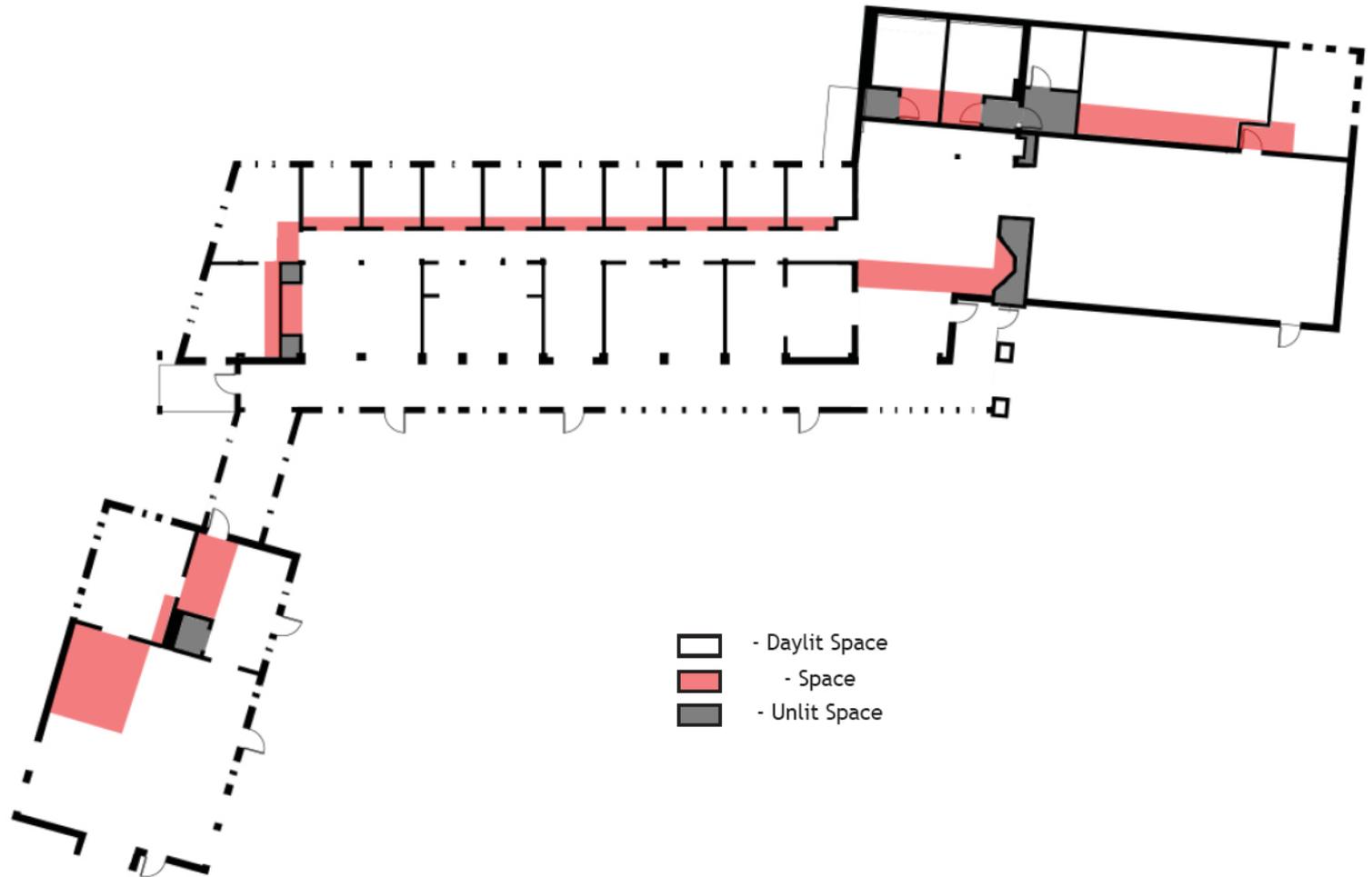
Diagram showing radiant heating system.

# Ground Source Heat Pumps



Super insulate hot water runs to minimize heat losses.

# Daylight All Occupied Zones



Electric lights are only ON when there is insufficient daylight.

# Three Season Hall



A large room designed NOT to be used in the winter when the weather is too severe to allow heating by a combination of passive + fireplace

# Forest Management & Sustainable Harvest



Before Harvest



After Harvest

# Calculating Carbon

# How much Carbon – numeric validation?

**Zero Carbon** requires designers to numerically validate the effectiveness of their approaches.

- **Carbon Footprint** calculators are available online to look at your *personal carbon emissions*
- **Carbon Estimators** are available online to begin to assess the *impact of buildings*
- **Carbon Calculators** are available for purchase that will work with BIM systems and provide a fairly *accurate feedback mechanism*
- Carbon can be calculated by other methods, more project specific

# Personal Footprint Calculators:

WWF

FOOTPRINT CALCULATOR  
in association with WI CARBON CHALLENGE

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

**What kind of house do you live in?**

- Detached
- Semi detached
- Terrace
- Flat

food

travel

home

stuff

These provide an educational starting point to understand the impact of actions and preferences.

They are region/country specific.



<http://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>

We've also calculated your **carbon footprint**, which is **12.35 tonnes** per annum



Reducing your impact

**Business**  
[click here](#)

## Carbon Footprint Calculator

Carbon Footprint

Climate Change

Calculator

CO<sub>2</sub> Reduction

Switch to Green

Carbon Offsetting

Shop

Business Services

Links

About Us

Welcome

House

Flights

Car

Motorbike

Bus & Rail

Secondary

Results



How many people are in your household?  [why?](#)

Enter your annual consumption of each type of energy, and press the "Calculate" button.

Electricity:

 kWh 

Natural Gas:

 kWh 

Heating Oil:

 litres 

Coal:

 tonnes 

LPG:

 litres 

Propane:

 litres

**1**  
Travel

**2**  
Food

**3**  
Home

**4**  
Me

**5**  
Pledges

**6**  
Report Card

- ▶ **help us improve**  
are we missing anything?
- ▶ **invite a friend**  
encourage your friends to join

## Travel

To answer each question about your travel impact:

- 1) Click to open question
- 2) Select the appropriate response
- 3) Click **"Submit"**

- Vehicle by distance i

Typically, I drive...

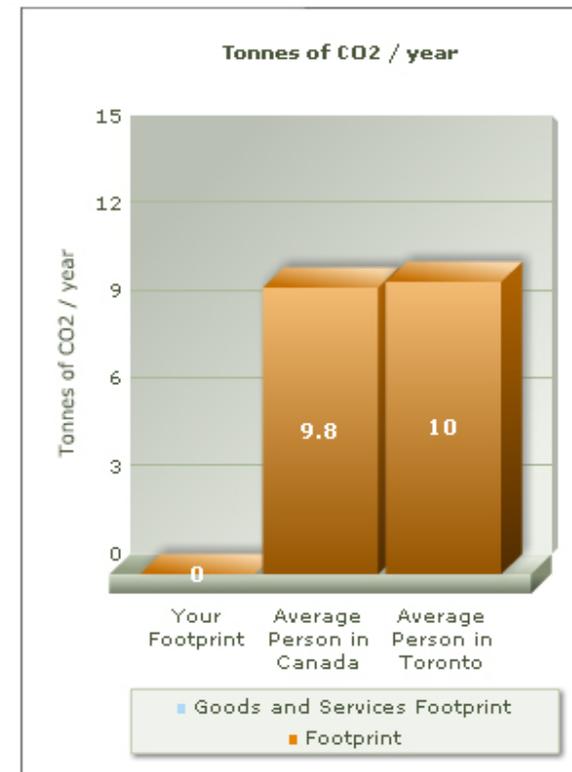
km per year

- SUV/Truck
- Large car
- Medium car
- Small car
- Large hybrid
- Hybrid

Don't know - use average

[Clear Answers](#) [Submit](#)

- + Air travel by number of flights
- + Streetcar, LRT, subway
- + Public bus
- + Commuter train



Compare your footprint with the average person in:

▼

First, we need a little information from you.

1. What country do you live in?

Canada

or on the map:



# Estimating Carbon in Construction:

BuildCarbonNeutral: focuses on reducing *impact and estimates EMBODIED carbon in BUILDINGS and SITE*

**buildcarbonneutral** beta

## Estimate the embodied CO<sub>2</sub> of a whole construction project.

The Construction Carbon Calculator helps developers, builders, architects and land planners approximate the net embodied carbon of a project's structures and site.

1:reduce 2:renew 3:offset

Constructing new buildings and sites with the least possible environmental impact involves three important steps: [reduce](#), [renew](#) and [offset](#). Offsetting means calculating the project's carbon footprint so it can be balanced by funding resources or activities like renewable energy and land protection – resources that benefit and protect the planet.

This tool estimates the embodied energy and subsequent carbon amounts released during construction. The measurements account for building materials, processes and carbon released due to ecosystem degradation or sequestered through landscape installation or restoration.

Learn more about this calculator: [why it exists](#), [how it works](#) and [why you should use it!](#)

### Construction Carbon Calculator

#### Building Size

Total Square Feet:

Stories Above Ground:

Stories Below Ground:

#### Primary Structural System Above Ground

- Wood  
 Concrete  
 Steel  
 Mixed

#### Site

Ecoregion: [\(view map\)](#)

Predominant Existing Vegetation:

Predominant Installed Vegetation:

Landscape (SF) Disturbed:

Landscape (SF) Installed:

I have read and agree to the [terms of use](#).

[www.buildcarbonneutral.org](http://www.buildcarbonneutral.org)

A simple input screen that is intended to quickly give you a rough idea of the carbon associated with a building and its interaction/impact on the site in terms of eco region and disturbance.

### Construction Carbon Calculator

**Building Size**

Total Square Feet:

Stories Above Ground:

Stories Below Ground:

**Primary Structural System Above Ground**

Wood

Concrete

Steel

Mixed

**Site**

Ecoregion:  [\(view map\)](#)

Predominant Existing Vegetation:

Predominant Installed Vegetation:

Landscape (SF) Disturbed:

Landscape (SF) Installed:

I have read and agree to the [terms of use](#).

Calculator version 0.03.5. Last updated 2007.10.11.

- estimates the **embodied carbon** and subsequent carbon amounts **released during construction**.
- the measurements account for building materials, processes and carbon released due to ecosystem degradation or sequestered through landscape installation or restoration.
- the Calculator's estimation demonstrates the role of the immediate landscape in the site carbon footprint and how it should be considered in the whole site design.

## PREMISE:

The Construction Carbon Calculator **estimates embodied carbon**. Embodied carbon is the carbon released when a product is manufactured, shipped to a project site and installed. This calculator looks at an entire project, and takes into account the **site disturbance, landscape and ecosystem installation or restoration, building size and base materials of construction**. It does this simply, requiring only basic information that is available to a project team very early in the design process.

The calculator provides an **estimate** that establishes a base number to clarify the carbon implications of the construction process - to be used as tool to address the reduction of that footprint. The results you obtain will be an estimation and approximate - **accurate within 25%, plus or minus**.

## Construction Carbon Calculator Results

Approximate net embodied CO2 for this project is

**94 metric tons.**

Sample:

3,000 sf house

### Your Entries

Total Square Feet	<b>3,000</b>
Stories Above Grade	<b>2</b>
Stories Below Grade	<b>1</b>
System Type	<b>mixed</b>
Ecoregion	<b>Eastern Temperate Forests</b>
Existing Vegetation Type	<b>Previously Developed</b>
Installed Vegetation Type	<b>Short Grass or Lawn</b>
Landscape Disturbed (SF)	<b>1,000</b>
Landscape Installed (SF)	<b>200</b>

Construction Carbon Calculator formula version 0.03.5, last updated 2007.10.11. These results are an approximation. Your actual carbon footprint may vary. See [assumptions](#) for more information.

## Construction Carbon Calculator Results

Approximate net embodied CO2 for this project is

**241 metric tons.**

### Your Entries

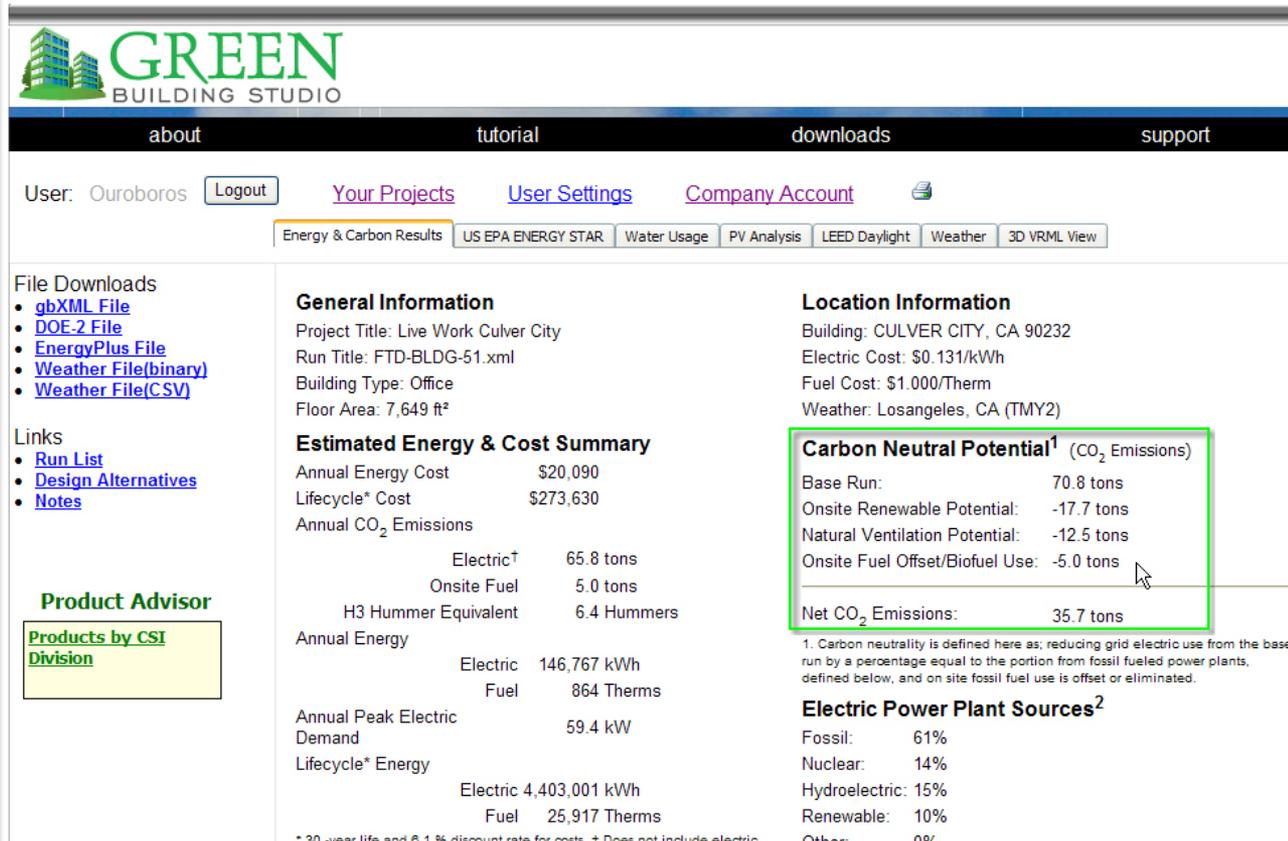
Total Square Feet	<b>10,000</b>
Stories Above Grade	<b>2</b>
Stories Below Grade	<b>0</b>
System Type	<b>wood</b>
Ecoregion	<b>Great Plains</b>
Existing Vegetation Type	<b>Savanna or Parkland</b>
Installed Vegetation Type	<b>Short Grass or Lawn</b>
Landscape Disturbed (SF)	<b>5,000</b>
Landscape Installed (SF)	<b>1,000</b>

Sample

10,000 sf Office

Construction Carbon Calculator formula version 0.03.5, last updated 2007.10.11. These results are an approximation. Your actual carbon footprint may vary. See [assumptions](#) for more information.

# Calculating Carbon in Operating Energy: Green Building Studio: works with BIM (now owned by Autodesk so requires a fee)



**GREEN BUILDING STUDIO**

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Energy & Carbon Results    US EPA ENERGY STAR    Water Usage    PV Analysis    LEED Daylight    Weather    3D VRML View

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- [gbXML File](#)
- [DOE-2 File](#)
- [EnergyPlus File](#)
- [Weather File\(binary\)](#)
- [Weather File\(CSV\)](#)

**Links**

- [Run List](#)
- [Design Alternatives](#)
- [Notes](#)

**Product Advisor**

[Products by CSI Division](#)

**General Information**

Project Title: Live Work Culver City  
Run Title: FTD-BLDG-51.xml  
Building Type: Office  
Floor Area: 7,649 ft<sup>2</sup>

**Location Information**

Building: CULVER CITY, CA 90232  
Electric Cost: \$0.131/kWh  
Fuel Cost: \$1.000/Therm  
Weather: Losangeles, CA (TMY2)

**Estimated Energy & Cost Summary**

Annual Energy Cost	\$20,090
Lifecycle* Cost	\$273,630
Annual CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions	
Electric†	65.8 tons
Onsite Fuel	5.0 tons
H3 Hummer Equivalent	6.4 Hummers
Annual Energy	
Electric	146,767 kWh
Fuel	864 Therms
Annual Peak Electric Demand	59.4 kW
Lifecycle* Energy	
Electric	4,403,001 kWh
Fuel	25,917 Therms

\* 30 -year life and 6.1 % discount rate for costs. † Does not include electric

**Carbon Neutral Potential<sup>1</sup> (CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions)**

Base Run:	70.8 tons
Onsite Renewable Potential:	-17.7 tons
Natural Ventilation Potential:	-12.5 tons
Onsite Fuel Offset/Biofuel Use:	-5.0 tons
<b>Net CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions:</b>	<b>35.7 tons</b>

1. Carbon neutrality is defined here as; reducing grid electric use from the base run by a percentage equal to the portion from fossil fueled power plants, defined below, and on site fossil fuel use is offset or eliminated.

**Electric Power Plant Sources<sup>2</sup>**

Fossil:	61%
Nuclear:	14%
Hydroelectric:	15%
Renewable:	10%
Other:	0%

# Energy and Carbon Results Output

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Energy &amp; Carbon Results

[US EPA ENERGY STAR](#)[Water Usage](#)[PV Analysis](#)[LEED Daylight](#)[Weather](#)[3D VRML View](#)

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- [DOE-2 File](#)
- [EnergyPlus File](#)
- [Weather File\(binary\)](#)
- [Weather File\(CSV\)](#)

## Links

- [Run List](#)
- [Design Alternatives](#)
- [Notes](#)

## Product Advisor

[Products by CSI Division](#)

## General Information

Project Title: Live Work Culver City  
Run Title: FTD-BLDG-51.xml  
Building Type: Office  
Floor Area: 7,649 ft<sup>2</sup>

## Estimated Energy & Cost Summary

Annual Energy Cost	\$20,090
Lifecycle* Cost	\$273,630
Annual CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions	
Electric†	65.8 tons
Onsite Fuel	5.0 tons
H3 Hummer Equivalent	6.4 Hummers
Annual Energy	
Electric	146,767 kWh
Fuel	864 Therms
Annual Peak Electric Demand	59.4 kW
Lifecycle* Energy	
Electric	4,403,001 kWh
Fuel	25,917 Therms

\* 30 -year life and 6.1 % discount rate for costs. † Does not include electric

## Location Information

Building: CULVER CITY, CA 90232  
Electric Cost: \$0.131/kWh  
Fuel Cost: \$1.000/Therm  
Weather: Losangeles, CA (TMY2)

## Carbon Neutral Potential<sup>1</sup> (CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions)

Base Run:	70.8 tons
Onsite Renewable Potential:	-17.7 tons
Natural Ventilation Potential:	-12.5 tons
Onsite Fuel Offset/Biofuel Use:	-5.0 tons

Net CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions: 35.7 tons

1. Carbon neutrality is defined here as; reducing grid electric use from the base run by a percentage equal to the portion from fossil fueled power plants, defined below, and on site fossil fuel use is offset or eliminated.

## Electric Power Plant Sources<sup>2</sup>

Fossil:	61%
Nuclear:	14%
Hydroelectric:	15%
Renewable:	10%
Other:	0%

Zero tons or less indicates a building that CAN achieve Carbon Neutrality.

Energy & Carbon Results | US EPA ENERGY STAR | Water Usage | PV Analysis | LEED Daylight | Weather | 3D VRML View

### General Information

Project Title: Live Work Culver City  
 Run Title: E & L & HVAC Measures  
 Building Type: Office  
 Floor Area: 7,649 ft<sup>2</sup>

### Estimated Energy & Cost Summary

Annual Energy Cost	\$16,124
Lifecycle* Cost	\$219,616
Annual CO <sub>2</sub> Emissions	
Electric†	52.2 tons
Onsite Fuel	5.1 tons
H3 Hummer Equivalent	5.2 Hummers
Annual Energy	
Electric	116,413 kWh
Fuel	874 Therms
Annual Peak Electric Demand	48.6 kW
Lifecycle* Energy	
Electric	3,492,390 kWh
Fuel	26,232 Therms

\* 30 -year life and 6.1 % discount rate for costs. † Does not include electric transmission losses.

### Energy End-Use Charts

Click on chart for more or less detail.

**Annual Electric End Use**

Space Heating	0.1%
Pumps & Aux	0.1%
Space Cooling	9.6%
Fan	10.7%

### Location Information

Building: CULVER CITY, CA 90232  
 Electric Cost: \$0.131/kWh  
 Fuel Cost: \$1.000/Therm  
 Weather: Losangeles, CA (TMY2)

### Carbon Neutral Potential<sup>1</sup> (CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions)

Base Run:	70.8 tons
This Run:	57.3 tons
Building Electric Reduction:	-13.6 tons
Onsite Renewable Potential:	-32.4 tons
Natural Ventilation Potential:	-7.2 tons
Onsite Fuel Offset/Biofuel Use:	-5.1 tons
<b>Net CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions:</b>	<b>-1.0 tons</b>

1. Carbon neutrality is defined here as: reducing grid electric use from the base run by a percentage equal to the portion from fossil fueled power plants, defined below, and onsite fossil fuel use is offset or eliminated.

### Electric Power Plant Sources<sup>2</sup>

Fossil:	61%
Nuclear:	14%
Hydroelectric:	15%
Renewable:	10%
Other:	0%

2. Based on US EPA EGRID 2006 Data (2004 Plant Level Data).

### Water Usage and Cost<sup>3</sup>

Total:	139,046 Gal/yr	\$457/yr
Indoor:	119,046 Gal/yr	\$389/yr
Outdoor:	20,000 Gal/yr	\$68/yr

# Green Building Studio:

Runs a DOE model of the existing building to provide the basis for reworking the design to reduce carbon via daylighting, PV, natural ventilation, envelope/window redesign, electricity, water – all based on climate and location statistics

**File Downloads**

- [gbXML File](#)
- [DOE-2 File](#)
- [EnergyPlus File](#)
- [Weather File\(binary\)](#)
- [Weather File\(CSV\)](#)

**Links**

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**Product Advisor**

[Products by CSI Division](#)

### Annual Fuel End Use

Category	Percentage
HVAC	49.9%
Other	50.1%

Total Floor Area: 2094 ft<sup>2</sup>

Maximum Payback Period: 29 yrs @ \$0.13 / kWh

4. Results based on all exterior surfaces being analyzed. Escalation rate of 2% applied to electric rate. Payback calculation does not include federal or state incentives, loan information, or tax breaks.

### LEED Daylight<sup>5</sup>

Area w/ Glazing Factor > 2%: 31.0% - No LEED Credit

5. Qualifies if glazing factor is > 2% in a minimum of 75% occupied areas.

### Wind Energy Potential<sup>6</sup>

Annual Electric Generation: 1,708 kWh

6. A single 15 ft diameter turbine, with out-in and out-out winds of 8 mph and 45 mph respectively, and located at the coordinates of the weather data.

### Natural Ventilation Potential<sup>7</sup>

Total Hours Mech. Cooling Required:	2,988 Hours
Possible Natural Ventilation Hours:	2,698 Hours
Possible Annual Electric Energy Savings:	27,808 kWh
Possible Annual Electric Cost Savings:	\$3,643
Net Hours Mech. Cooling Required:	290 Hours

7. Assumes natural ventilation only during comfort zone periods and air changes per hour are less than 20 ACH. Building form & opening design must be able to allow stack effect or cross ventilation.

### Building Summary

#### Quick Stats

If values are red or blue they appear to be higher or lower than typical ranges, respectively.

Number of People	29 people
Average Lighting Power Density	1.35 W/ft <sup>2</sup>
Average Equipment Power Density	1.73 W/ft <sup>2</sup>
Specific Fan Flow	0.7 cfm/ft <sup>2</sup>
Specific Fan Power	0.676 W/cfm
Specific Cooling	563 ft <sup>2</sup> /ton
Specific Heating	26 ft <sup>2</sup> /kBtu
Total Fan Flow	5,586 cfm
Total Cooling Capacity	14 tons
Total Heating Capacity	296 kBtu/h

#### Constructions

U-Value: Btu/(hr-ft<sup>2</sup>-F°)

Source: [www.greenbuildingstudio.com](http://www.greenbuildingstudio.com) (purchased by Autodesk so now requires login and payment)

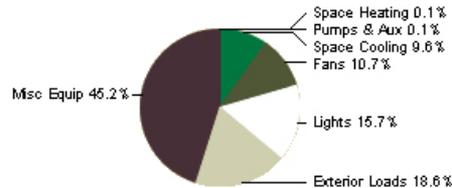
# Output suggests areas of improvement/potential

Energy & Carbon Results US EPA ENERGY STAR Water Usage PV Analysis LEED Daylight Weather 3D VRML View

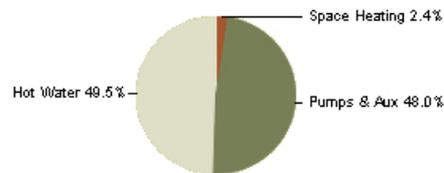
## Energy End-Use Charts

Click on chart for more or less detail.

### Annual Electric End Use



### Annual Fuel End Use



## Building Summary

### Quick Stats

If values are red or blue they appear to be higher or lower than typical ranges, respectively.

Number of People	29 people
Average Lighting Power Density	0.81 W/ft <sup>2</sup>
Average Equipment Power Density	1.73 W/ft <sup>2</sup>
Specific Fan Flow	0.6 cfm/ft <sup>2</sup>

Renewable: 10.7%

Other: 0%

2. Based on US EPA EGRID 2006 Data (2004 Plant Level Data).

## Water Usage and Cost<sup>3</sup>

Total:	139,046 Gal/yr	\$457/yr
Indoor:	112,946 Gal/yr	\$418/yr
Outdoor:	26,100 Gal/yr	\$39/yr

3. Based on AWWA Research Foundation 2000 Residential / Commercial and Institutional End Uses of Water.

## Photovoltaic Potential<sup>4</sup>

Annual Energy Savings:	70,527 kWh
Total Installed Panel Cost:	\$323,528
Nominal Rated Power:	40 kW
Total Panel Area:	3410 ft <sup>2</sup>
Maximum Payback Period:	26 yrs @ \$0.13 / kWh

4. Results based on all exterior surfaces being analyzed. Escalation rate of 2% applied to electric rate. Payback calculation does not include federal or state incentives, loan information, or tax breaks.

## LEED Daylight<sup>5</sup>

Area w/ Glazing Factor > 2%: 31.0% - No LEED Credit

5. Qualifies if glazing factor is > 2% in a minimum of 75% occupied areas.

## Wind Energy Potential<sup>6</sup>

Annual Electric Generation: 1,708 kWh

6. A single 15 ft diameter turbine, with cut-in and cut-out winds of 6 mph and 45 mph respectively, and located at the coordinates of the weather data.

## Natural Ventilation Potential<sup>7</sup>

Total Hours Mech. Cooling Required:	2,628 Hours
Possible Natural Ventilation Hours:	2,338 Hours
Possible Annual Electric Energy Savings:	16,041 kWh
Possible Annual Electric Cost Savings:	\$2.101

# Ability to run Design Alternatives and compare results.

<b>Project: Live Work Culver City</b>		<a href="#">Run List</a>	<b>Base Run: FTD-BLDG-51.xml, Energy Cost: \$20,090</b>		
General	Lighting	Roof	Northern Walls	Southern Walls	
Rotation 0	Lighting Efficiency No change	Construction No Change	Construction No Change	Construction No Change	
HVAC No Change	Lighting Control No change		Glazing Type No Change	Glazing Type No Change	
			Glass Amount No change	Glass Amount No change	

1. Select Changes Below.    2. Enter Alternative Name:     3. Add Alternative

General	Lighting	Roof	Northern Walls	Southern Walls
Alternatives	Annual Energy Cost	Rotation	HVAC	
		0	No Change	<input type="button" value="Delete"/> <input type="checkbox"/>

# Athena Institute EcoCalculator: addresses a wider range of variables and is FREE.

[Welcome Terri Boake](#) • [Your Account](#) • [Sign off](#)



## Download the EcoCalculator

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**Now downloading**

**Version 2.3 of the**

**FREE EcoCalculator**

## Download the EcoCalculator



The **ATHENA® EcoCalculator for Assemblies** provides instant LCA results for common building assemblies based on detailed assessments previously conducted using the **ATHENA® Impact Estimator**.

Please note that the the current version of the **EcoCalculator** is **v2.3**, Certain assemblies **highlighted in red** are still being worked on, and others may be changed somewhat in the near future in terms of their specific definitions. As data for other assemblies becomes available, they will be added to the **EcoCalculator**.

To freely download and use the **EcoCalculator**, you will first need to pick the most appropriate climatic region and the relevant version for the height of your building. Both of these choices affect the specific assembly definitions

**Geographic Region**

**Building Height**

Although the **EcoCalculator** is presented in an easy-to-use Excel spreadsheet format, you may find it useful to review or download the [User's Guide](#) PDF. Detailed assembly definitions, assumptions and related information are provided in a separate [Definitions and Assumptions](#) document that can also be downloaded in a pdf format.

Please note that the **EcoCalculator** Excel files contain **NO MACROS**.

[www.athenasmi.org/tools/ecoCalculator/](http://www.athenasmi.org/tools/ecoCalculator/)

**Geographic Region** Atlanta USA

**Building Height**

- Atlanta USA
- Calgary Canada
- Halifax Canada
- Minneapolis USA
- Montreal Canada
- Orlando USA
- Ottawa Canada
- Pittsburgh USA
- Quebec City Canada
- Toronto Canada
- Vancouver Canada
- Winnipeg Canada
- Northern USA
- Southern USA

Although the *EcoCalculator* is presented in spreadsheet format, you may find it useful to review or download assembly definitions, assumptions and related documents. Definitions and Assumptions document the

spreadsheet format, Detailed and in a separate pdf format.

Please note that the *EcoCalculator* Excel

As of July 2008, includes the above geographic locations and a choice of either high rise or low rise building.

**Geographic Region** Quebec City Canada

**Building Height** High-Rise

Download

Set up as a series of building type specific spreadsheets that provide feedback on these topics:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
9														
10														
11														
12														
13														
14														
15														
16														
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43														
44														
45														

**This easy-to-use interface is designed to calculate the environmental impacts associated with the assemblies used in your building. The five environmental impact measures are:**

### **Primary Energy**

This is the amount of energy used in the extraction, processing, transportation, construction, and disposal of each material. Measured in megajoules (MJ).

### **Global Warming Potential**

This is the amount of greenhouse gases created in the extraction, processing, transportation, construction, and disposal of each material. Measured in metric tonnes unless specified otherwise.

### **Weighted Resource Use**

This is the amount of raw materials required for the extraction, processing, transportation, construction, and disposal of each material. Measured in metric tonnes unless specified otherwise.

### **Water Pollution**

This is the impact on water quality created in the extraction, processing, transportation, construction, and disposal of each material. Measured as an index.

### **Air Pollution**

This is the impact on air quality created in the extraction, processing, transportation, construction, and disposal of each material. Measured as an index.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1				<b>TOTAL IMPACTS BY BUILDING COMPONENT</b>	Primary Energy (MJ) TOTAL	GWP (tonnes) TOTAL	Weighted Resource Use (tonnes) TOTAL	Air Pollution Index TOTAL	H2O Pollution Index TOTAL	
2				COLUMNS & BEAMS	0	0	0	0.00		
3				INTERMEDIATE FLOORS	0	0	0	0.00		
4				EXTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0.00		
5				WINDOWS	0	0	0	0.00		
6				INTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0.00		
7				ROOF	0	0	0	0.00		
8				<b>WHOLE BUILDING</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>		

### A. COLUMNS AND BEAMS

## ATHENA ASSEMBLY EVALUATION TOOL v2.3—Toronto Low-Rise Building

IN THE YELLOW CELLS BELOW, ENTER THE AREA (in m<sup>2</sup>) THAT EACH ASSEMBLY IS USED IN YOUR BUILDING

	ASSEMBLY TYPE	Beam	m <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of total	Primary Energy per m <sup>2</sup> (MJ)	GWP per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Weighted Resource Use per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Air Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>	H2O Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>	
12	Column									
13	<b>Average:</b>					488.29	21.00	131.21	3.02	0.06
14	1	Concrete	Concrete	0	1260.23	68.07	503.83	8.61	0.0491	
15	2	Concrete	Wide-flange steel	0	1038.26	51.81	229.18	6.18	0.1729	
16	3	Concrete	Glulam	0	311.96	16.61	143.90	2.96	0.0067	
17	4	Concrete	Structural Composite Lumber	0	448.09	18.85	198.36	2.99	0.0245	
18	5	Hollow Structural Steel	Wide-flange steel	0	798.99	36.62	103.98	4.21	0.1801	
19	6	Hollow Structural Steel	Glulam	0	245.42	5.85	100.82	1.32	0.0178	
20	7	Hollow Structural Steel	Structural Composite Lumber	0	141.86	5.85	51.99	1.56	0.0163	
21	8	Glulam	Wide-flange steel	0	968.81	43.30	128.63	5.04	0.2037	
22	9	Glulam	Glulam	0	124.15	4.10	52.51	1.46	0.0002	
23	10	Glulam	Structural Composite Lumber	0	259.51	6.31	106.83	1.48	0.0178	
24	11	Structural Composite Lumber	Wide-flange steel	0	980.43	43.25	134.27	5.00	0.2037	
25	12	Structural Composite Lumber	Glulam	0	135.77	4.05	58.16	1.41	0.0002	
26	13	Structural Composite Lumber	Structural Composite Lumber	0	271.13	6.26	112.48	1.44	0.0178	
27	14	Wide-flange Steel	Wide-flange steel	0	1008.17	45.23	129.37	5.22	0.2155	
28	15	Wide-flange Steel	Glulam	0	164.69	6.10	53.47	1.56	0.0120	
29	16	Wide-flange Steel	Structural Composite Lumber	0	268.24	6.10	102.30	1.32	0.0135	
30	17	Built-up Softwood	Glulam	0	114.12	3.75	48.66	1.32	0.0002	
31	18	Built-up Softwood	Structural Composite Lumber	0	249.48	5.95	102.97	1.35	0.0178	
32	<b>TOTAL m<sup>2</sup></b>			<b>0.00</b>						

WELCOME & HOW-TO | COLUMNS AND BEAMS | INTERMEDIATE FLOORS | EXTERIOR WALLS | WINDOWS | INTERIOR WALLS | ROOFS

Tab along the bottom of the spreadsheet to manually input data for each building material or assembly.



TOTAL IMPACTS BY BUILDING COMPONENT	Primary Energy (MJ) TOTAL	GWP (tonnes) TOTAL	Weighted Resource Use (tonnes) TOTAL	Air Pollution Index TOTAL	H2O Pollution Index TOTAL
COLUMNS & BEAMS	0	0	0	0	0.00
INTERMEDIATE FLOORS	0	0	0	0	0.00
EXTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0	0.00
WINDOWS	0	0	0	0	0.00
INTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0	0.00
ROOF	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>WHOLE BUILDING</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>

### C. EXTERIOR WALLS

## ATHENA ASSEMBLY EVALUATION TOOL v2.3—Toronto Low-Rise Building

IN THE YELLOW CELLS BELOW, ENTER THE AREA (in m<sup>2</sup>) THAT EACH ASSEMBLY IS USED IN YOUR BUILDING

		Assembly R-value	m <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of total	Primary Energy per m <sup>2</sup> (MJ)	GWP per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Weighted Resource Use per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Air Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>	H2O Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>
<b>Average:</b>					1421.11	88.76	319.71	18.36	7.43
<b>8" CONCRETE BLOCK</b>									
1	Concrete block, brick cladding rigid insulation, vapor barrier	21.80	0		2254.83	113.76	256.98	27.99	0.0198
2	Concrete block, steel cladding, rigid insulation, vapor barrier	21.61	0		2519.28	208.41	190.63	37.45	47.3227
3	Concrete block, stucco cladding rigid insulation, vapor barrier	21.11	0		1530.64	88.82	213.63	16.79	0.0310
4	Concrete Block, EIFS, vapor barrier	16.51	0		1227.71	72.38	136.73	14.51	0.0131
5	Concrete Block, precast cladding, rigid insulation, vapor barrier	21.00	0		1464.18	93.18	301.72	16.58	0.0557
6	Concrete block, brick cladding rigid insulation, vapor barrier gypsum board, latex paint	22.36	0		2394.08	118.17	275.66	29.89	0.0198
7	Concrete block, steel cladding rigid insulation, vapor barrier gypsum board, latex paint	22.17	0		2658.52	212.82	209.30	39.35	47.3227
8	Concrete block, stucco cladding rigid insulation, vapor barrier gypsum board, latex paint	21.67	0		1669.89	93.23	232.30	18.69	0.0310
9	Concrete block, EIFS, vapor barrier, gypsum board, latex paint	17.07	0		1366.95	76.79	155.41	16.41	0.0131
	Concrete block, precast cladding, rigid								

Provides a tally as you enter values

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1				<b>TOTAL IMPACTS BY BUILDING COMPONENT</b>		Primary Energy (MJ) TOTAL	GWP (tonnes) TOTAL	Weighted Resource Use (tonnes) TOTAL	Air Pollution Index TOTAL	H2O Pollution Index TOTAL
2				COLUMNS & BEAMS	245435	12	77	1517	28.91	
3				INTERMEDIATE FLOORS	0	0	0	0	0.00	
4				EXTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0	0.00	
5				WINDOWS	0	0	0	0	0.00	
6				INTERIOR WALLS	0	0	0	0	0.00	
7				ROOF	0	0	0	0	0.00	
8				<b>WHOLE BUILDING</b>	<b>245435</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>1517</b>	<b>28.91</b>	
9	<b>B. INTERMEDIATE FLOORS</b>									
10	<b>ATHENA ASSEMBLY EVALUATION TOOL v2.3—Quebec City High-Rise Building</b>									
11	IN THE YELLOW CELLS BELOW, ENTER THE AREA (in m <sup>2</sup> ) THAT EACH ASSEMBLY IS USED IN YOUR BUILDING									
12		<b>Floor Structure</b> <i>*Assemblies in red forthcoming*</i>	<b>Interior Ceiling Finish</b>	m <sup>2</sup>	Percentage of total	Primary Energy per m <sup>2</sup> (MJ)	GWP per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Weighted Resource Use per m <sup>2</sup> (kg)	Air Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>	H2O Pollution Index per m <sup>2</sup>
13	<b>Average:</b>					649.88	47.50	352.57	7.56	0.0790
20	7	WOOD JOIST AND OSB DECKING SYSTEM	gypsum board; latex paint	0		390.82	8.34	141.88	2.95	0.0007
21	8	OPEN WEB STEEL JOIST W/ STEEL DECKING SYSTEM AND CONCRETE TOPPING	gypsum board; latex paint	0		883.77	57.30	337.96	8.60	0.1908
22	9	OPEN WEB STEEL JOIST W/ STEEL DECKING SYSTEM AND CONCRETE TOPPING	none	0		743.06	53.18	320.55	6.79	0.1908
23	10	STEEL STUD JOIST AND OSB FLOORING SYSTEM	none	0		620.95	39.61	129.20	5.46	0.2693
24	11	Structural steel w/ steel decking system and concrete topping		0						
25	12	Structural steel w/ steel decking system and concrete topping		0						
26	13	OPEN WEB STEEL JOIST W/ 3/4" OSB FLOORING SYSTEM	gypsum board; latex paint	0		554.99	21.35	106.35	3.72	0.0850
27	14	OPEN WEB STEEL JOIST W/ 3/4" OSB FLOORING SYSTEM	none	0		414.28	17.23	88.94	1.91	0.0850
28	15	Cold-formed flat steel truss w/ steel decking system and concrete topping		0						
29	16	Cold-formed flat steel truss w/ steel decking system and concrete topping		0						
30	17	Cold-formed steel joist w/ steel decking system and concrete topping		0						
<span>WELCOME &amp; HOW-TO</span> / <span>COLUMNS AND BEAMS</span> / <b><span>INTERMEDIATE FLOORS</span></b> / <span>EXTERIOR WALLS</span> / <span>WINDOWS</span> / <span>INTERIOR WALLS</span> / <span>ROOFS</span>										

Notes in red assemblies not currently included but forthcoming.  
 Always check back for a more recent version!!  
 Do not reuse downloads!

## Athena Institute and Morrison Hershfield: Impact Estimator w/ Life Cycle Analysis

- evaluates whole buildings and assemblies based on internationally recognized life cycle assessment (LCA) methodology.
- easily assess and compare the environmental implications of industrial, institutional, commercial and residential designs—both for new buildings and major renovations. the software also distinguishes between owner-occupied and rental facilities.
- puts the environment on equal footing with other more traditional design criteria at the conceptual stage of a project. incorporates ATHENA's own widely-acclaimed databases, which cover more than 90% of the structural and envelope systems typically used in residential and commercial buildings.
- simulates over 1,000 different assembly combinations and is capable of modeling 95% of the building stock in North America.

The *Estimator* takes into account the environmental impacts of:

- Material manufacturing, including resource extraction and recycled content
- Related transportation
- On-site construction
- Regional variation in energy use, transportation and other factors
- Building type and assumed lifespan
- Maintenance, repair and replacement effects
- Demolition and disposal
- Operating energy emissions and pre-combustion effects

Although the *Estimator* doesn't include an operating energy simulation capability, it does allow users to enter the results of a simulation in order to compute the fuel cycle burdens and factor them into the overall results.

# Download a free trial version

*Success*

Jul 05, 2008

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## Athena Impact Estimator

### demo model registration

Welcome and thank you for your interest in the ATHENA<sup>®</sup> Impact Estimator software.

We are pleased to offer you the opportunity to test-drive a limited function Demo version of our software. ATHENA<sup>®</sup> Impact Estimator v.3.0.2 is an environmental assessment tool that lets building designers compare the relative environmental effects or trade-offs among alternative design solutions at the conceptual design stage.

The ATHENA<sup>®</sup> Impact Estimator v.3.0.2 Demo software is being released for review, testing and experimental purposes only and is provided without any warranty, expressed or implied. The model's use should be limited to a conceptual design setting and should not be used to size components or assemblies for actual design purposes.

You can download our FREE Demo Model after completing the Registration Form below.

Required fields are indicated by an asterisk (\*).

Name:*	<input type="text" value="Terri Boake"/>
Organization Name:*	<input type="text" value="University of Waterloo"/>
Country:	<input type="text" value="Canada"/>
E-mail:*	<input type="text" value="tboake@uwaterloo.ca"/>
Type of Organization:*	<input type="text" value="Education"/>
	<input type="button" value="Submit"/>

### athena index

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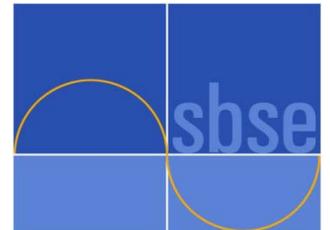
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<http://www.athenasmi.org/tools/impactEstimator/demo.html>

# **The Carbon Neutral Design Project Web Site**

# The Carbon Neutral Design Project

- Curriculum materials project
- Society of Building Science Educators  
[www.sbse.org](http://www.sbse.org)
- Funded by the American Institute of Architects
- Web site dedicated to
  - explaining carbon neutral design
  - examination of building case studies
  - exploration of carbon calculation tools/software
  - exposition of teaching materials at the University level





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- ▣ [What is Carbon Neutral Design?](#)
- ▣ [Carbon Neutral Design Process](#)
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## The Carbon Neutral Design Project:



**The Aldo Leopold Legacy Center, Baribou, Wisconsin:**  
the first Carbon Neutral Building in the United States, in addition to being awarded LEED® Platinum  
*Members of the CND Project enjoy a site tour in November 2008*

The Carbon Neutral Curriculum Materials Project is a joint research effort between members of the Society of Building Science Educators ([www.sbse.org](http://www.sbse.org)), the American Institute of Architects ([www.aia.org](http://www.aia.org)), and a private donor, the purpose of which is to provide practitioners, faculty and students with the means to meet the 2030 Challenge ([www.architecture2030.org](http://www.architecture2030.org))- that is, to be able to design and construct buildings to a state of carbon neutrality by the year 2030.

Please use the links at the left to find out more about designing buildings to a state of carbon neutrality.

**IMPORTANT: THIS SITE IS A WORK IN PROGRESS - COMPLETION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 2009**



[AIA Home](#) > [SBSE Home](#) > [Teaching Resources](#) > [Carbon Neutral Design](#) > [Carbon Calculation Tools](#) > [Survey of Tools](#)

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## The Carbon Neutral Design Project:

### Carbon Calculation Tools:

#### Survey of Available Tools

**Note #1:** Where professors associated with the Carbon Neutral Design Project have used the software in their coursework, their comments will be located below the software description and a link to their assignment hot linked to their name in the right hand column.

**Note #2:** It will be noted if the product is available as a FREE DOWNLOAD, ONLINE TOOL or purchased product. For pricing for products for purchase please visit the associated website.

**Note #3:** The required OS will be noted. Most of the Energy Programs are PC based only. For Mac users, it is recommended to run the programs using a PC simulator such as Bootcamp, Parallels or Virtual PC.

**Note #4:** Where possible, screenshots will be provided so that you can get an idea of the nature of the interface. These will be located in the right hand column. Click on the thumbnail for a larger version of the image.

Energy Modeling Software		Click on the Image for a Screenshot!
Software Name	Description / URL / Comments	Professors / Projects
<b>A Course in Climate Responsive Building Design</b>	<p><a href="http://www.aud.ucla.edu/energy-design-tools/">http://www.aud.ucla.edu/energy-design-tools/</a> FREE DOWNLOAD (software mostly PC)</p> <p>The software and problems sets have been provided by Professor Emeritus Murray Milne to assist designers in understanding Climate Responsive Building Design. Scroll towards the bottom of the above linked page for more information, and to access the course materials.</p>	
<b>Building Design Advisor</b>	<p><a href="http://gaia.lbl.gov/BDA/">http://gaia.lbl.gov/BDA/</a> (PC only)</p> <p>A powerful buildings design tool that will unify various specialized tools previously developed at LBNL makes it easy to compare design alternatives and includes multimedia resources such as a case-study library.</p>	
<b>Climate Consultant 4</b>	<p><a href="http://www.aud.ucla.edu/energy-design-tools/">http://www.aud.ucla.edu/energy-design-tools/</a> FREE DOWNLOAD (PC only)</p> <p>This program graphically displays climate data in either metric or imperial units in dozens of ways useful to architects including monthly bar charts, timetable charts, and psychrometric charts, sun shading charts, and sun dial charts. 3-D plots show temperatures, humidity, radiation, and sky cover. The "Wind Wheel" graphics shows velocity</p>	

**Remaining “Wicked Problems”**

# #1 – Building Size and Shape

- Most carbon neutral or ZED buildings to date are small
- No ZED buildings at a large scale to examine or emulate
- Buildings must be designed with a thin plan to allow for daylighting
- Tall buildings will have limited roof area for the installation of PV arrays
- Solar potential of wall areas needs to be studied

## #2 - Location

- Most current ZED buildings have been constructed in rural areas
- Rural areas have a higher potential for solar harvesting, wind harvesting, installation of renewables, fresh air, carbon sequestration through use of the property/green space
- Urban areas will have severe issues with overshadowing and other limits on the installation of renewables
- Urban areas have limited site area

## #3 – Natural Ventilation

- A key way to reduce the energy required to power a building is via the elimination of A/C
- Not all buildings can tolerate the resulting humidity or fluctuations in interior environment that can result from no A/C
- Urban environments can be too “dirty” for natural ventilation
- Urban environments can be too noisy for natural ventilation

## #4 – Severe climates

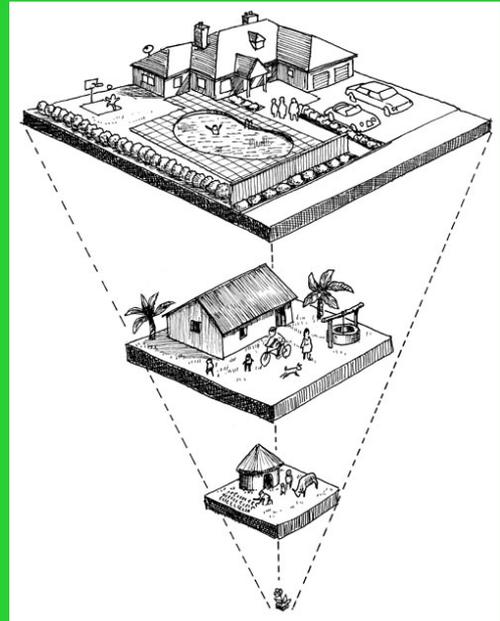
- Severe climates will require more energy to heat and cool buildings
- Northern climates have limited solar potential for both daylighting and passive heating
- Hot-humid climates may require additional energy to bring interior environments to a state of reasonable comfort

## #5 – Fee structures

- The bottom line in reduction is to consider building less
- Fees are normally based as a percentage of construction cost
- Disincentive to reduce scope of building as it reduces income
- Need to find a way to link fees to energy savings
- Need to have additional fees to properly engineer the synchronized systems of carbon neutral buildings

# Smaller is better

- **Simple!**...less building results in **less** embodied carbon; i.e. **less** carbon from materials used in the project, **less** requirements for heating, cooling and electricity....
  - Re-examine the building program to see what is *really* required
  - How is the space to be used?
  - Can the program benefit from more inventive double uses of spaces?
  - Can you take advantage of outdoor or more seasonally used spaces?
  - **How much building do you *really* need?**
- INFERENCE OF LIFESTYLE CHANGES!**

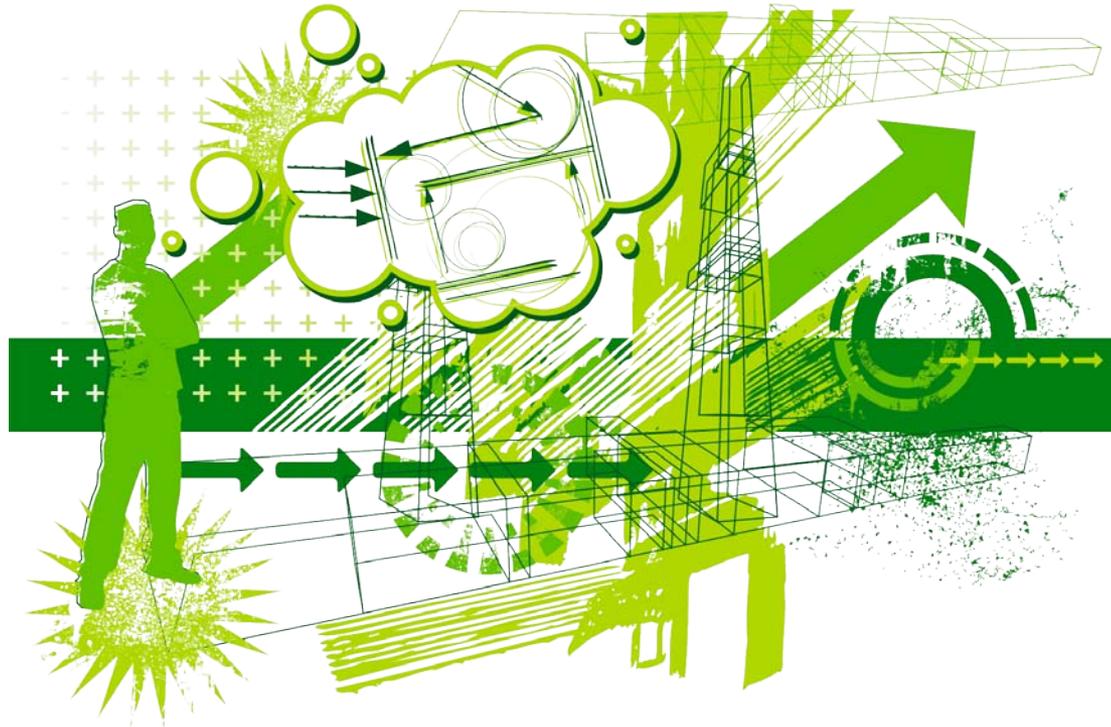


Calculating your  
“ecological footprint”

... can naturally extend to  
an understanding of your  
“carbon footprint”

## #6 – Integrated Design

Carbon Neutral cannot be done without the highest level of early and continued cooperation amongst the client, architect and engineers



# Summary:

What IS the **difference** between a Sustainable Building and a Carbon Neutral Building?

- Sustainable building does not equal Carbon Neutral Building
- Sustainable building prefers renewable materials
- Carbon Neutral Building looks for Carbon emission impacts in materials use
- Sustainable building seeks to reduce energy consumption for its heating and cooling systems
- Carbon Neutral building looks for Zero Net Energy in its heating and cooling systems

# Summary:

What ARE the **KEY STRATEGIES** needed to design to a state of **CARBON NEUTRALITY**?

**#1 - Reduce loads/demand first** (passive design, daylighting, shading, orientation, etc.)

**#2 - Meet loads efficiently and effectively** (energy efficient lighting, high-efficiency MEP equipment, controls, etc.)

**#3 - Use on-site generation/renewables to meet energy needs** (doing the above steps *before* will result in the need for much smaller renewable energy systems, making carbon neutrality achievable.)

# Summary:

What are the ARCHITECTURAL IMPLICATIONS of designing to Zero Carbon?

- increased impact of plan and section design in achieving reduced energy requirements
- increased importance of building orientation, siting and treatment of site both during and after construction
- greater need for integrated design process and coordination with consultants from outset of project
- narrower scope of “acceptable” materials
- more energy efficient “systems”
- more highly glazed (daylighting) and insulated buildings

# Summary:

What is the **POTENTIAL** of designing a building to a state of Carbon Neutrality?

- Ability to effect a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
- Ability to increase the likelihood of creating a regenerative or restorative building
- Ability to exceed LEED™ design levels
- Ability to create a building that is superior in its durability
- Ability to deliver a building that is extremely low in its energy related operating costs and life cycle costs
- Ability to create a “conscience free” building