



America's (Green) Fountain Company!SM



The LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System™ was devised as a voluntary, consensus-based national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. LEED® was initially created by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to establish a common measurement to define “green building.” It has since grown into a program aimed at raising awareness of and promoting integrated “green” building projects.

The green building movement is a essential part of the solution to the energy, resource and climate issues our country faces. In the United States, buildings annually account for 39% of the U.S. primary energy use; 70% of the U.S. resource consumption; consume 40% of raw materials globally; and use 12.2% of all potable water, or 15 trillion gallons per year.

How does a building become a “green” building?
Through design and construction that concentrates on:

- Conserving water
- Reducing energy consumption;
- Reducing the depletion of natural resources and materials;
- Creating a sustainable site;
- Use of innovative design; and
- Improving indoor environmental quality.

LEED® points are not given to individual products, but to an aggregate of the building system that saves water, energy, and contributes to a healthy indoor environment.

To become LEED® certified, the building is rated by these six categories. Within each category, points are awarded based on the LEED® Green Building Rating System™.

On average, a LEED® certified building uses 30% less water than a conventional building, which translates to more than 1 million gallons of water saved per year. Reducing the amount of water that needs to be conveyed to and treated by municipal wastewater treatment facilities also reduces pumping and process energy required to these systems. LEED®, through practices like rainwater harvesting, promotes on-site storage and use of rainwater to lower water consumption cost, and it reduces the impact on storm drainage and municipal treatment systems.

LEED® awards points to building designs for a variety of energy-efficient and environmentally friendly features, from the installation of radiant heating to reduction of energy consumption, to grey water recycling, to use of local building materials that require less energy to transport.

In general, Certified and Silver LEED® project tend to achieve the first irrigation and water use reduction point, using standard technologies at no additional cost. Gold and Platinum projects tend to achieve all 5 water points, typically at reasonable added cost, but there is a commitment to using new technologies, products and methods such as Rainwater Harvesting.

Leading the way on LEED™ Certification

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