



O UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
PORTLAND

the white stag block

The United States Green Building Council (USGBC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the design and building of sustainable structures. The USGBC's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED™) Green Building Rating System™ is a nationally-accepted system of certification for green buildings. LEED is the de-facto standard of green building and used by owners, designers, builders and others to achieve innovative design that includes a comprehensive, integrated approach to sustainability from energy efficiency to building placement, within the greater urban fabric.

The LEED certification process employs a scorecard by which those involved in the design and construction process keep track of, and report on, the actual green building techniques that will be used to qualify for certification. The scorecard is divided into six sections: Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy & Atmosphere, Materials & Resources, Indoor Environmental Quality, and Innovation & Design.

Sustainable Sites criteria promote sustainability and the reduction of pollution through the choice or use of the building site. Water Efficiency criteria promote the reduction of a building's water requirements through water-saving design and innovation. Energy & Atmosphere criteria are designed to reduce a building's impact through the optimization of its energy performance, the use of on-site renewable energy, and the purchase of green power. Materials & Resources criteria address sustainability through the reuse of existing buildings, the management of construction waste, the reuse of materials, and the use of recycled and regional materials. Indoor Environmental Quality criteria are designed to improve building users' experience and health through control of indoor air quality and thermal comfort. Innovation & Design criteria recognize building design for taking extra steps, demonstrating innovation and creativity.

The White Stag Block's LEED Gold certification is based on the LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations (LEED-NC v.2.2). This particular rating system is geared towards institutional and commercial projects, such as government, office, and high-rise residential buildings.

~ Diana Fischetti

Photos: NASA, Ray Neff, Jessica Engeman, R.N., BikePortland.org Dawn Aurora O'Connor, Fletcher Farr Ayotte

References Cited

- Green Building Services. 2008. "LEED - NC v 2.2 Scorecard; Project Name: White Stag." Portland, OR.
- United States Green Building Council. <http://www.usgbc.org/>.
- United States Green Building Council. 2005. "LEED for New Construction & Major Renovations: Version 2.2."



Detail of the Rainwater Catchment System