

GREEN BUILDING RESOURCES

GREEN BUILDINGS ARE KEY FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Seal Beach is committed to achieving sustainability and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Green buildings, which are more energy efficient and use renewable sources of energy can have a significant impact on reducing energy, water, and natural resource consumption.

WHAT ARE GREEN BUILDINGS

Green building practices focus on improving both the environment, and the health and comfort of building occupants. Proven green building techniques reduce energy, water, and materials use, and improve air quality, temperature control, and access to daylight and views for building occupants. In addition to being better for the environment, green buildings have lower operating costs and similar construction costs to conventional buildings. Over the life of the building, significant savings are realized.

WHY HAVE GREEN BUILDINGS IN SEAL BEACH

Green buildings are healthy for occupants and have reduced negative impacts on the environment. Building materials, efficient appliances, and on-site renewable energy are key considerations. Homes and businesses that burn gas for water heating, space heating, cooking and clothes drying are responsible for almost a quarter of local emissions. To address pollution from buildings, Seal Beach is committed to supporting reduced emissions.

FINANCING OPTIONS

GoGreen Financing offers affordable loans to both single/multi-family homeowners and small businesses. Administered by the State of California with support from the investor-owned utilities, GoGreen facilitates financing for energy retrofits for qualifying properties: <https://www.gogreenfinancing.com/>

Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE) offers a turnkey resource for residential and commercial property owners to finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation and seismic improvements. Sign up to receive PACE financing on your next energy efficiency project through a listed provider: <https://cscda.org/property-assessed-clean-energy-programs/>.

INCENTIVES

- Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEEHRA) provides rebates for multifamily and single-family home retrofits including heat pump HVAC, heat pump water heaters, cooktops, ranges, ovens, and heat pump clothes dryers.
- TECH Clean California is a statewide initiative to accelerate the adoption of clean space and water heating technology across California homes. Enrolled contractors installing Heat Pump HVAC systems and Heat Pump Water Heaters can earn up to \$3,100 per installation. To find a TECH Clean California enrolled contractor, visit [Switchison.org](https://switchison.org). If you are a contractor, apply for TECH Clean California Incentives, visit <https://catechincentives.com/>
- Southern California Edison (SCE) directly funds the Golden State Rebates Program. Golden State Rebates provides instant rebate coupons for Air Conditioners, Smart Thermostats, Electric Heat Pump Water Heaters and Gas Water Heaters. <https://goldenstaterebates.clearesult.com/>



GREEN BUILDING TIPS

ADVANTAGES

The practice of green building is taking an integrated approach to construction, infrastructure, and building sites to provide a more environmentally friendly, healthier, and energy-efficient place to live. When starting your plans for your new house, remodel, or other project, there are many advantages to going green:

- Savings on your energy bills
- Savings on your water bills
- Helping out the environment
- Preserving the planet for future generations

DESIGN COMPONENTS

This is best done in the beginning of a project during the conceptual phase. There are many components you can incorporate into the design. Talk to your project professionals such as your architect or contractor, or conduct research yourself online and at your local library.

NATURAL LIGHT AND VENTILATION:

When designing your new home think of places where natural light can be utilized. The placement of windows can be used to create a natural flow of air for cooling in the summer instead of always turning on the air conditioner.

APPLIANCES:

Look for Energy Star appliances and check with your utility provider to see what rebates are available.

PLUMBING FIXTURES:

There are many types of plumbing fixtures - toilets, showers, and faucets - that offer water conservation features.

WATER HEATER AND POOL HEATERS:

The three main types of water heaters are on-demand, solar, and standard water heaters. Do some research on which one suits your family's needs best. A solar pool heater for example could be a cost saving when it comes to your fuel gas consumption. Always check with your energy provider to see if they offer fuel-efficient appliances rebates.

ALTERNATIVE ENERGY DESIGN:

Solar electric, solar hot water heating, and GEO thermal are some options available.

THE BUILDING ENVELOPE:

Think about the types of windows, insulation, roofing material, and roofing color. It may help save on heating and cooling costs.

USING RECYCLED AND/OR NON-TOXIC CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS:

Many products are available now that produce lower off-gassing.

DECONSTRUCTION AND/OR SALVAGE DEMOLITION:

Some companies specialize in the deconstruction or salvage of the existing buildings on the site. Building salvaged materials can be reused someplace else.

NEW FIREPLACES:

New fireplaces are required to comply with South Coast Air Quality Management District's Requirements of being U.S. EPA Phase II certified wood-burning device, pellet-fueled device, or listed on the Air District's list of approved devices.

LANDSCAPING:

Planning for low-water and drought tolerant landscapes can be as easy as using plants that are native to the area. Avoid large lawns that require lots of water, fertilizers, and maintenance.