

## GREEN RESOURCES

### **Associations and Councils**

**Appalachian Hardwood Manufacturers, Inc.** – An association of lumber producers and suppliers who manufacture and distribute for the Appalachian hardwood region. Their web site offers research statistics demonstrating the sustainability of the Appalachian hardwood regions' timber harvest.

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

**Build It Green** – A California-based non-profit organization that promotes healthy, energy and resource-efficient buildings and supports collaborations that will accelerate the adoption of green building practices. [www.builditgreen.org](http://www.builditgreen.org)

**Green Building Initiative, Inc.** – Formed a strategic partnership with NAHB to bring green building to the mainstream. GBI is an accredited standards developer under ANSI. In 2004, the organization was licensed to bring Green Globes to the U.S. from Canada.

[www.theGBI.org](http://www.theGBI.org); [www.greenglobes.com](http://www.greenglobes.com)

**The Natural Step** is a non-profit that works to accelerate global sustainability by guiding companies, communities and governments in the redesign of their activities towards sustainability. [www.naturalstep.org](http://www.naturalstep.org)

**The Sustainable Furnishings Council** – A non-profit industry coalition founded in 2006 to promote sustainable practices among manufacturers, retailers and consumers. The Council is committed to minimizing carbon emissions, waste stream pollutants, un-recyclable content and use of primary materials. They have created a public tagging program to identify sustainable product choices. [www.sustainablefurnishingscouncil.org](http://www.sustainablefurnishingscouncil.org)

**U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** – A national non-profit organization dedicated to expanding green building practices and education through its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program. [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)

### **Green Building Programs** (with varying levels of certifications)

#### ***Whole Building/Remodel***

**Built Green** – An environmentally friendly residential building program in Washington State. Their web site offers easy to understand rating systems and building practices. The Built Green logo assures that a home meets the criteria of the Built Green checklist.

[www.builtgreen.net](http://www.builtgreen.net)

**Green Globes** – A green building assessment and rating system used in the U.S. and Canada. It offers an online interactive tool which allows one to input changes and keep assessments current. It is licensed under the Green Building Initiative, Inc.

[www.greenglobes.com](http://www.greenglobes.com)

**Green Point Rated** – Sponsored by Build It Green of California, Green Point Rated is a "report card" for new home construction. Allows home buyers to evaluate a home's

green features. If it meets a minimum of 50 points, the home may display the Green Point Rated label. Homes are evaluated by independent certified raters. [www.greenpointrated.org](http://www.greenpointrated.org); [www.builditgreen.org](http://www.builditgreen.org)

**Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)** – A whole-building approach to sustainability through a points achievement system based on performance in sustainable site development, water and energy efficiency, indoor air quality and material resources. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Green Building Council. LEED has a variety of programs targeted to new construction, existing buildings, core and shell, commercial interiors, homes, schools, hospitals, laboratories and neighborhoods. [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org)

**National Green Building Program** – Under the auspices of the National Association of Home Builders, this is an education, verification and certification program that allows builders anywhere to build green homes. The program features an online scoring tool which shows builders how to score points in seven categories. Homes are inspected by local green experts and documentation is sent to the National Association of Home Builders Research Center for review and potential certification. [www.nahbgreen.org](http://www.nahbgreen.org)

**REGREEN Residential Remodeling Guidelines** – Best practices guidelines for sustainable residential remodeling intended for designers, construction professionals and homeowners. Developed by the American Society of Interior Designers' Foundation and the U.S. Green Building Council. [www.regreenprogram.org](http://www.regreenprogram.org)

## **Certifications**

### ***Adhesives, Paints***

**Green Seal** – An independent non-profit concerned with safeguarding the environment and transforming the marketplace by promoting the manufacture, purchase and use of environmentally responsible products and services and by greening the production chain. Uses life cycle analysis in its evaluation of products. Follows ISO procedures for environmental labeling. Federal agencies are required to use Green Seal's consensus standards when making purchases with federal funds which in turn is influencing state purchasing programs. Product categories include adhesives, cleaners, paints and coatings, window and door, floor care and more. [www.greenseal.org](http://www.greenseal.org)

### ***Air Quality***

**CARB (California Air Resources Board)** – A state governing board appointed by the Governor to oversee air quality issues for the state. They are charged with protecting public health through the reduction of air pollutants. CARB is known for setting stringent standards for air quality. The airborne toxic control measure (ACTM) to reduce formaldehyde emissions from composite wood products has become part of California Codes. [www.arb.ca.gov](http://www.arb.ca.gov)

**EPA Significant New Alternatives Policy (SNAP) Program** – Evaluates and regulates alternatives to ozone-depleting chemicals being phased out by the Clean Air Act, to facilitate a smooth transition away from depleting compounds to substitutes with lower risks to human health and the environment. Includes substitutes for aerosols, solvents, adhesives, coatings, cleaners and more. [www.epa.gov/ozone/strathome.html](http://www.epa.gov/ozone/strathome.html)

**GREENGUARD** – The GREENGUARD Environmental Institute (GEI) is an industry-independent non-profit organization that oversees the GREENGUARD Certification program, committed to improving indoor air quality (IAQ). As an ANSI Accredited Standards Developer, GEI establishes indoor air standards for products, environments and buildings. [www.greenguard.org](http://www.greenguard.org)

### ***Energy***

**Green-e Power** – Nation's leading independent program for the sale of renewable energy and verification of greenhouse gas emission reduction in the retail market. Allows consumers to identify environmentally superior energy options and businesses to communicate the purchase and/or generation of certified renewable energy. A program of the Center for Resource Solutions. [www.green-e.org](http://www.green-e.org)

### ***Forests***

**American Tree Farm System (ATFS)** – Program of the American Forest Foundation, a national non-profit committed to sustaining forests, watershed and healthy habitats through private stewardship. Has established standards and guidelines for becoming a certified Tree Farm. Targeted mainly to small, non-industrial forest owners. [www.treefarmsystem.org](http://www.treefarmsystem.org)

**Canadian Standards Association National Standard for Sustainable Forest Management** – Voluntary standard developed by an open and transparent multi-stakeholder consensus-based process, linking forest management to forest certification through performance, systems and public participation requirements. CSA is a non-profit developer of standards and codes. [www.csa.ca](http://www.csa.ca)

**Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)** – International organization promoting responsible stewardship of the world's forests through third-party certification of forest management and chain of custody. This is currently the only forest certification recognized by the LEED program. [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org).

**Sustainable Forest Initiative, Inc.** – An independent organization created to direct all aspects of the SFI program including chain of custody certification and labeling, marketing and promotion. The comprehensive system of principles, objectives and performance measures was developed by foresters, conservationists and scientists to combine the growth and harvesting of trees with long-term protection of forests, wildlife, plants, soil and water quality. [www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org)

### ***Furniture, Cabinetry, Components***

**Composite Panel Association (CPA)** – Conducts product testing and 3<sup>rd</sup> party certification programs. Offers the first ANSI accredited Environmentally Preferable Product (EPP) certification program for composite panels that are 100% recycled and low emitting. The EPP Grademark program was developed to provide independent certification of wood composite products that are environmentally preferable through recycled and recovered materials and adherence to lower formaldehyde emissions than government regulations. [www.compositepanel.org](http://www.compositepanel.org)

**Business & Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association (BIFMA)** – Develops standards that support safe and healthy sustainable environments in accordance with ANSI, including furniture emissions standards. BIFMA collaborates with state and federal government departments, academics, research councils and other stakeholders. [www.bifma.org](http://www.bifma.org)

**KCMA's Environmental Stewardship Program (ESP)** – In 2006, KCMA established the ESP program to help cabinet manufacturers demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and to create identifiable environmentally friendly products for consumers. ESP is a voluntary program. When certification requirements are met, manufacturers can display the ESP seal on their products. [www.greencabinetsource.org](http://www.greencabinetsource.org); [www.kcma.org](http://www.kcma.org)

### ***Multiple Certification Areas***

**Scientific Certification Systems** – A third-party provider of certification, auditing and testing services and standards, applicable to manufacturing sectors such as office furniture systems, components, building materials, carpet, flooring, paints, finishes and wood products, as well as forest management operations and chain of custody certification of wood products. The SCS Sustainable Choice® certification indicates product has been evaluated from initial extraction through manufacturing, distribution, use and disposal (life cycle analysis). The SCS Indoor Advantage® is an indoor air quality performance standard. [www.scs-certified.com](http://www.scs-certified.com)

### **Lean and Green**

**Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** --Has a free, downloadable document entitled "The Lean and Environmental Toolkit," which contains modified lean tools such as VSM and 5S to include environmental considerations. [www.epa.gov/lean](http://www.epa.gov/lean)

The **Green Suppliers Network** -- A joint effort of the U.S. EPA and the U.S. Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program. Manufacturers of all sizes can join the network, they commit to participating in a Lean and Clean review of a product or process line. The Green Suppliers Network review team conducts a technical review at the facility and trains staff on the Lean and Clean Advantage, combining the "lean" enterprise of the supplier's local MEP center with the "clean" expertise of the supplier's state environmental programs. [www.epa.gov/greensuppliers](http://www.epa.gov/greensuppliers)

### **Codes of Interest**

**Green Seal (GS) 11 and 03** – Standards for paints and anti-corrosive paints.

**Green Seal (GS) 36** – Standard for aerosol adhesives.

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

**International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14000 – A "family" of Environmental Management Standards.**

**ISO 14001** Provides generic *requirements* -- applicable to any organization or business -  
- for implementing an environmental management system (EMS), following good environmental practices and striving for continual improvement. Creates a common reference for communicating about environmental management issues between organizations and their customers, regulators, the public and other stakeholders. The intention of ISO 14001 is to provide a framework for a holistic, strategic approach to an organization's environmental policy, plans and actions. ISO 14004 provides general EMS *guidelines*.

**International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 14021 – Environmental Labels and Declarations—Self-Declared Environmental Claims** – Gives

requirements for self-declared claims including statements, symbols and graphics in regards to products, and qualification for use of some common terms.  
[www.iso.org/iso/home.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/home.html)

**NOTE: ISO works with ANSI in the U.S. Contact information for ANSI: Phone: 212-642-4900; e-mail: [info@ANSI.org](mailto:info@ANSI.org).**

**State of California Green Building Action Plan, Executive Order S-20-04** – Calls for public buildings to be 20% more energy efficient by 2015 and directs all new state buildings and major renovations to be LEED-NC (New Construction) Silver or higher (another equal or higher standard is acceptable as approved by the Green Action Team).  
[www.energy.ca.gov/greenbuilding](http://www.energy.ca.gov/greenbuilding)

**South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)**

Rule #1168—Reduction of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) for Adhesive and Sealant Applications

Rule #1113 – Limit of VOC content for Architectural Coatings

[www.aqmd.gov/rules/rulesreg.html](http://www.aqmd.gov/rules/rulesreg.html)

**Web Sites**

[www.apawood.org](http://www.apawood.org) – The **Wood Promotion Network** is a series of publications of the Engineered Wood Association addressing comparisons of LEED and GreenGlobes; the NAHB Home Builders Guidelines; Life Cycle Assessment and more.

[www.buildinggreen.com](http://www.buildinggreen.com) – Contains the online version of the GreenSpec® Directory with over 2,200 listings of environmentally preferred products. **Building Green** is also an independent publisher of green design information. They publish a hardcopy of the GreenSpec® as well as *Environmental Building News*.

[www.ciwmb.ca.gov](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov) – The **California Integrated Waste Management Board** site offers a wealth of information related to recycling, reducing waste and re-use of products. The Sustainable Building Section 01350 contains specific language on environmental and health issues for building projects including “project selection guidelines and emission-testing protocols to distinguish low-emitting materials.” (To find Section 01350, click on “A-Z Index” at top right on the homepage, then “Green Building,” then “Special Environmental Requirements Specification Section 01350.”)

[www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) -- **ENERGY STAR** is a joint program of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy, intended to help Americans choose energy efficient products and practices for home and business. The site contains an ENERGY STAR product list, tips and resources.

[www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp](http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp) -- The EPA’s **Environmentally Preferable Purchasing** program encourages and assists federal agencies in the purchase of environmentally preferable products. Because of the government’s tremendous purchasing power, this program in turn stimulates the market for green products. On this site, under Products and Services, it lists environmental attributes to look for relevant to specific categories, such as Building and Construction. Has a database of over 600 products.

*AWFS® does not specifically endorse any program or company or product listed and any errors of omission are unintentional.*