

# Green Building Update

an Allen Matkins  
market intelligence  
publication

**Allen Matkins**  
attorneys at law

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## **Greenest University? UW**

*Eco Academy - August 26*

Greenopia recently rated the environmental impact of the 100 largest U.S. universities. Based on green building design, renewable energy, green food options, waste programs, alternative fuel vehicles, water conservation and environmental reporting, University of Washington topped the list.

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## **Green Building Focus**

### **Initiative: assessing LEED buildings**

*U.S. Green Building Council - August 25*

The USGBC launched the Building Performance Initiative to collect and analyze data and assess the performance of LEED buildings. The initiative is designed to create a comprehensive data base from buildings that have achieved LEED certification. This initiative coincides with the required disclosure of performance data for LEED buildings under LEED-2009.

### **List: USGBC publications**

*U.S. Green Building Council - August 24*

Provided is a list of recent USGBC publications such as the LEED 2009 Reference Guides.

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## **New Orleans Conference on green building**

*Facing South - August 31*

The Sierra Club and United Steelworkers are holding a conference this fall on the environmentally sustainable rebuilding of New Orleans. The conference is seeking presenters, sponsors as well as registrants.

## **Advanced green materials need market pricing**

*Reuters - August 25*

Advanced green materials need to be sold at Home Depot, Lowe's and other discount stores at commodity prices before they achieve mass appeal. The number of people willing to buy something because it's "cool" is a small fraction of those willing to buy something because it pays back in energy savings. Examples of advanced green materials include

(1) dark roofing materials that don't heat up; (2) "lightweight" construction materials such as wallboard that give the performance of thermal mass without the weight; and (3) embodied energy and advanced concrete admixtures that reduce the material's carbon footprint by up to 60%.

## **Builders list green construction concerns**

*Green Building Elements - August 24*

The Marsh Green Building Team's recent forum identified two reasons for a builder's reluctance to construct green projects: (1) financial concerns and (2) legal concerns. Builders worry that (a) green construction will not endure the economic downturn, (b) material prices are subject to large fluctuations, (c) government incentives may fall through, and (d) delays may occur because of these issues.

## **UK launches STEP**

*Business Green - August 28*

The UK Green Building Council unveiled its new Sustainability Training and Education Programme (STEP) for the construction and property sectors. The industry group is seeking training partners to run two new green skills development courses.

### **Notable green building projects...**

#### **[Largest speculative green building in the world](#)**

*Globe St. - August 27*

Stirling Capital Investments earned LEED Gold for a new one-million-square-foot industrial building in the Southern California Logistics Centre. The project is the second-largest LEED Gold industrial building in the world and the largest speculative green building in the world.

#### **[Southface Eco -- LEED platinum and more](#)**

*Triple Pundit - August 24*

Southface Eco Office earned LEED Platinum, qualified for Energy Star, EarthCraft Light Commercial certification and met the 2030 Challenge launched by the non-profit group Architecture 2030. The building, located in Atlanta, encompasses 10,100 square feet and uses 84% less potable water and 53% less energy than a comparable building.

#### **[McDonald's tests 10 'green' locations](#)**

*Environmental Leader - August 17*

McDonald's is evaluating 10 prototype "green" restaurant locations. The restaurant is treating the 10 locations as "learning laboratories." One of the green prototype stores uses 25% less energy than similar locations.

#### **[Ohio's first LEED healthcare project](#)**

*Cleveland.com - August 26*

The Cleveland Clinic's JJ North administration building earned LEED certification and features lights that adjust to bright sunlight and overcast days, water-saving toilets, bicycle storage and showers for employees who bike to work.

#### **[Walgreens' first LEED drugstore in Illinois](#)**

*Walgreens - August 19*

Walgreens' first LEED drugstore in Illinois will save nearly 34,000 gallons of water a year with efficient water fixtures. The site is a cleaned-up brownfield. The coolers, freezers and exterior signs all use LED lights, reducing energy use by 50% over fluorescent lighting.

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**Bryan C. Jackson**  
Editor

**Michael Kostecka**  
Associate Editor



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[More...](#)

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## Events

Our attorneys speak at many conferences and seminars on green building topics.

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Bryan Jackson's list of recent speaking engagements can be found [here](#).

**Taking It Upstream: Collaboration, Consensus Building and Sustainable Development--A Green Leadership (Un)Conference**

Pepperdine University  
**September 25**

[Bryan Jackson](#) of Allen Matkins is speaking. Get the Allen Matkins discount when you [register](#)!

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**Renewable Energy Update**

Allen Matkins has a **NEW** free weekly publication, which is designed for readers who are trying to stay abreast of renewable energy news (including wind, solar, geothermal, biomass). [\*\*SUBSCRIBE!\*\*](#)

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