

# Green Tools

Powered by King County

## King County Department of Development and Environmental Services (DDES)

*Get free project management assistance and priority processing for your eco-friendly building projects!*

The DDES Green Building Team can answer your questions and help you achieve Built Green™ rating for your single- or multi-family home.

The purpose of the DDES Green Building Program is to encourage customers to build as green as possible. DDES staff members knowledgeable in green building strategies are assigned to green building and low-impact development projects. Building and development projects are qualified using one of four Built Green™ checklists, depending on the type of project, organized into environmentally friendly action categories. When construction is complete, builders send a signed copy of the checklist to the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties, certifying that the home identified in the application contains the identified features.

Based upon the submission, and after reviewing the application, you will be awarded the appropriate Certificate of Merit indicating that the home has received 3-, 4- or 5-Star rating. It's not that difficult to achieve a rating and, in fact, if you estimate the total action credits on the checklist for your current project design, you may find that you already qualify for a Built Green rating level.

### Free Green Building Technical Assistance

If you are interested in using green strategies, then the Green Building Program is for you. DDES provides you with technical assistance and resources to help turn your eco-friendly decisions into a certified Built Green home.

For free green building technical consulting services contact Cynthia Moffitt at 206-296-6792 or email [cynthia.moffitt@kingcounty.gov](mailto:cynthia.moffitt@kingcounty.gov) or Dan Farrell at 206-263-6037 or email [dan.farrell@kingcounty.gov](mailto:dan.farrell@kingcounty.gov)



*Peterman house, east of North Bend; energy-efficient construction.*

LIVING SHELTER DESIGN

**Your project may already qualify for a Built Green rating—see the sample checklist on the back.**



JAS Design Build

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## Incentives for Permits Achieving Built Green 4-Star and 5-Star Levels

### **Built Green 5-star single family home, <1,500-sf**

- Eight hours of free project management and priority processing

### **Built Green 4-star single-family home, <5,000-sf**

- Three hours of free project management and priority processing

### **Built Green 5-star single family home, <5,000-sf**

- Five hours of free project management and priority processing

### **Built Green 5-star multi-family project**

- 15 hours of free project management and priority processing

## The Built Green Checklists have many action items that can make your home more eco-friendly

A sample of checklist items includes:

- Site your house to include south facing shaded windows to take advantage of passive solar and natural day light.
- Use advanced framing with 2x6s at 24" on center instead of 16" on center. This reduces the amount of lumber you need to buy by 15 percent, reduces labor cost by three to five percent, and increases the area for insulation reflected by a five percent savings in heating costs.
- Place insulation between living spaces and unheated areas to produce a protective shell around your house.
- Centrally locate the furnace to shorten duct runs and boost furnace efficiency.
- Use long-lasting compact fluorescent light bulbs that use less energy than standard incandescent bulbs.
- Place insulation between living spaces and unheated areas to produce a protective shell around your house.
- Use low toxin/low volatile organic compounds (VOC) paint. These paints are widely available, durable, and cost effective. Because these paints don't off gas toxic fumes, they are better for your health.

*Greenbridge Hope VI Project, White Center; Built Green 3-star.*

GGLO



*Shamrock Heights subdivision, east of Renton; 4-star Built Green.*

CAMWEST



**King County**

Department of  
Development and  
Environmental Services

This material will be provided in alternate formats upon request.

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## For More Information

Refer to DDES Information Bulletin #55, *Green Building and Low Impact Development* or visit the web site at [www.kingcounty.gov/greenpermits](http://www.kingcounty.gov/greenpermits)