

green design at SPRINGBOARD

SPRINGBOARD does 'green' design!

Since our launch in 2001, SPRINGBOARD has been quietly committed to sustainable - 'green' - design. Every project we do, big or small, is in some way sustainable. Whether it is specifying energy efficient lighting, selecting low-VOC paint colors, recommending recycled carpet tiles with water-based adhesives, or adapting an existing building for a new use, our approach is always green. In recent years, the LEED and EnergyStar programs have upped the ante for sustainable projects, representing a more systemic and comprehensive approach to building green that requires an even greater commitment from both clients and architects. And SPRINGBOARD has been right there, involved in LEED-certified and other green buildings and interiors, as a number of our staff study to take the exam and join the growing ranks of LEED-accredited professionals.

SPRINGBOARD approaches each of its projects systematically in terms of a number of criteria to determine how green is green:

**LEED GREEN, ENERGY STAR, OR PLAIN GREEN?
INTELLIGENT PROGRAMMING
SITE PLANNING AND BUILDING ORIENTATION
BUILDING ENVELOPE
BUILDING SYSTEMS
INTERIORS FINISHES AND ASSEMBLIES
COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING**

Today, green design has become more affordable than ever before. And in our base of Pittsburgh, PA, the 'green capital of the world,' according to the Green Building Alliance, it is increasingly requested by our local clients. For every product and assembly that is required for a project – whether it is a small house, an office interior, a commercial building or public building – there are green options. We strive to give our clients a sense of what their options are – their benefits and costs – and work with them to achieve the shade of green they want for their environment.

In a sense then, there is no such thing as a purely 'green' project – many aspects contribute to making a project more or less sustainable. Yet, even when a project is only partly green, it is still more sustainable than another project that does not contain any green elements. We endeavor to work with our clients to make the projects we work on as sustainable as possible, given our clients' goals, financial constraints, and spatial restrictions.

Go green!