

# LUTHER COLLEGE

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Department:              | Facilities Services                          |
| Subject:                 | Green Building Policy                        |
| Date Issued:             | December 7, 2010                             |
| Updated and Reviewed By: | Finance & Administration Team – May 19, 2021 |
| Approved By:             | President’s Cabinet – September 8, 2021      |

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### **I. Policy**

Luther College is committed to environmental sustainability and will evaluate all existing College building stock for compatibility and function prior to deciding on building new. All new construction projects and major renovations/repurposing/remodels will be constructed to meet Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver standards.

### **II. Purpose**

Environmental sustainability is more than designing “green buildings” or maintaining natural reserves. At its best, it reflects an institutional commitment to minimize the use and waste of nonrenewable natural resources, thereby recognizing the economic as well as ecological benefit of this commitment without compromising institutional mission and goals.

One result of being a signatory to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) is that in January 2007, Luther College committed to building all new projects to LEED silver standards.

### **III. Scope**

To the best of their ability, all Luther employees and or contractors hired by Luther will adhere to LEED silver standards with regard to any new building or major remodeling project. Architects, engineers, contractors and designers must follow LEED guidelines and provide documentation of points for all new projects. A LEED checklist will guide decisions for meeting LEED standards.

### **IV. Terms and Definitions**

- USGBC – U.S. Green Building Council
- LEED – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. A USGBC program that promotes various green building strategies across several categories.
  - o Certified - 40-49 points
  - o Silver – 50-59 points
  - o Gold – 60-79 points
  - o Platinum – 80+ points
- LEED Checklists – lists that can be found on the USGBC website for building projects

- Utilities Master Plan – A plan that has been developed to guide future planning for HVAC systems. A copy is available at Facilities Services
- Energy Star Policy – Available on the Luther College policies page

## **V. Procedures and Guidelines**

- A. Construction Waste
  - Non-hazardous waste will be reused, repurposed, or recycled
    - o Disposal of waste in a landfill will occur only if all other avenues have been exhausted
  - Hazardous wastes , such as asbestos and lead paint will be disposed of according to current Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations
- B. Energy Efficiency
  - Lighting, heating, ventilation, and plumbing fixtures will be chosen according to efficiency ratings, and utilizing the College's Utilities Master Plan
  - Appliances will be purchased according to Luther College's Energy Star Policy
- C. Material Selection
  - When possible and practical, materials will be sourced locally (identified in current LEED guidelines), environmentally friendly, and/or repurposed from other projects
- D. Indoor Air Quality
  - All projects will be completed to ensure and/or improve indoor air quality
- E. Educational Component
  - When possible, signage should be installed to educate building occupants about the sustainability practices being used in the building
- F. Behavioral Element
  - Buildings will be designed to encourage sustainable behavior. For example, a small trashcan coupled with a sizeable recycling bin encourages responsible waste disposal
- G. New Construction/ Renovation/Major Remodels
  - The most recent version of the LEED checklist for new construction will be used for all new construction projects, renovations, major redesigns and major remodels

## **VI. Confidentiality and Record**

Records on new construction and remodels will be maintained at the Facilities Services Office and are available for review by any Luther College student or employee upon request