

WHY A CALGREEN CODE?

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has made the greening of California a huge priority during his administration.

In 2004, Executive Order S-20-04 created the "Green Building Action Team", which established efficiency measures for state-owned buildings, with a goal of reducing grid-based electricity by 20% in the year 2015. Under the guidance of the Green Building Action Team, the Department of General Services established green building policies for new and existing state buildings. In 2005, Executive Order S-03-05 established the "Climate Action Team" (CAT) and called for an overall reduction in greenhouse gas emissions in California.

The Governor's proactive measures include his signature on California's landmark bill, AB32, which establishes a comprehensive program of cost effective reductions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2020.

The California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) staff worked with CAT and the California Air Resources Board to ensure that the commission's green building standards are factored into the program designed to meet the goals of AB32. In 2007, CBSC acted with other state agencies and building industry stakeholders to develop the current voluntary California Green Building Standards Code, Part 11 of the California Building Standards Code. The recently adopted mandatory CAL-Green code is currently scheduled to go into effect on January 1, 2011.

CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS COMMISSION

Established in 1953 by California Building Standards Law, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) is an independent commission within the State & Consumer Services Agency. The eleven commission members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the State Senate.

The CBSC is responsible for administering California's building standards program, including adoption and/or approval, publication, and implementation processes of California Code of Regulations, Title 24, also known as the California Building Standards Code. Unless exempted by law, all buildings in California are required to comply with standards contained in Title 24.



Education & Outreach

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C A L I F O R N I A
B U I L D I N G S T A N D A R D S C O M M I S S I O N

CALGreen

"California continues to lead the way in its efforts to reduce the impact buildings have on our environment. This new code encourages the use of energy and water conservation measures as well as renewable, recyclable, and recycled material in the building process, requiring all California buildings to be constructed with the environment in mind..."

— Dave Walls

Executive Director

California Building Standards Commission

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NONRESIDENTIAL MANDATORY MEASURES

PLANNING AND DESIGN

Site Development

- Storm water pollution prevention plan
 - New projects less than one acre
- Bicycle parking
 - Short-term bicycle parking
 - Long-term bicycle parking
- Designated parking for clean air vehicles
- Light pollution reduction
- Grading and paving

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Regulated by the California Energy Commission

WATER EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

Indoor Water Use

- Water meters
 - Buildings in excess of 50,000 square feet
 - Excess consumption
- 20% Savings of potable water
 - Multiple showerheads serving one shower
 - Wastewater reduction
- Standards for plumbing fixtures and fittings

Outdoor Water Use

- Water budget
- Meters for outdoor potable water use
- Irrigation design
 - Weather or soil moisture-based irrigation controllers

MATERIAL CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE EFFICIENCY

Water Resistance and Moisture Management

- Exterior weather protection
- Design for moisture control
 - Sprinklers
 - Entries and openings

Construction Waste Reduction, Disposal and Recycling

- Construction waste management plan
 - Documentation
 - Isolated jobsites
- Construction waste reduction of at least 50%
- 100% of excavated soil and land clearing debris

Building Maintenance and Operation

- Recycling by occupants
 - Sample ordinance
- Commissioning for new buildings 10,000 square feet and over
 - Owner's Project Requirements (OPR)
 - Basis of Design (BOD)
 - Commissioning plan
 - Functional performance testing
 - Documentation and training
 - Commissioning report
- Testing and adjusting for new buildings under 10,000 square feet

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Fireplaces

- Direct-vent sealed gas or sealed wood-burning fireplaces

Pollutant Control

- Covering of duct openings and protection of mechanical equipment during construction
- Finish material pollutant control
 - Adhesives and sealants
 - Paints and coatings
 - Carpet systems
 - Resilient flooring
 - Composite wood products
- Air filters
- Environmental tobacco smoke control

Indoor Moisture Control

Title 24, Part 2, Section 1203 and Chapter 14

Indoor Air Quality

- Outside air delivery
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂) monitoring

Environmental Comfort

- Acoustical Control
 - Exterior noise transmission
 - Interior sound

Outdoor Air Quality

- Ozone depletion and greenhouse gas reductions
 - Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)
 - Halons

NONRESIDENTIAL VOLUNTARY MEASURES

The measures contained in the appendix are not mandatory unless adopted by a city, county, or city and county. CALGreen Tier 1 and Tier 2 are intended for adoption by cities, counties, and cities and counties to help California meet its goals for greenhouse gas emission reduction. Appendix provisions may also be used voluntarily by designers, builders, and property owners.

To achieve CALGreen Tier 1 or Tier 2, one must comply with the following:

- Meet all mandatory requirements;
- Exceed 2008 Energy Efficiency Standards by 15% or 30%;
- Employ additional voluntary measures in all the following areas:
 - Parking for clean air vehicles
 - Cool roofs
 - Reduction of indoor and outdoor water use
 - Construction waste diversion
 - Use of materials with recycled content
 - Installation of low-emitting resilient flooring and thermal insulation; and
- Comply with additional elective measures as follows:
 - 5 for Tier 1
 - 15 for Tier 2

