



Understanding Green Building Standards

An overview of approaches for single and multifamily new construction homes.

	MEETS CODE	EXCEEDS CODE Voluntary unless adopted by local jurisdictions.	
	CALGreen 2022	GreenPoint Rated v9.0	LEED for Homes v4.1
Project Type	New Construction & Additions	New Construction & Gut Rehabs*	New Construction & Gut Rehabs
Verification Designee	Building Department	Third Party Green Rater	Third Party Provider + Third Party Green Rater
Process	1. Plan Check 2. Inspection Reports or Other Methods Acceptable by Enforcing Authority	1. Plan Check 2. Construction Verification 3. Performance Testing	1. Preliminary Rating during Conceptual Design 2. Construction Verification 3. Performance Testing
Points Possible	None	Up to 300	Up to 110
Levels	CALGreen Mandatory (CA)	Platinum (140+ points) Gold (110 - 139 points) Silver (80-109 points) Certified (50 - 79 points)	Platinum (80+ points) Gold (60 - 79 points) Silver (50-59 points) Certified (40 - 49 points)
Certification	None	GreenPoint Rated 	LEED Certified 
Special Designation	None	GreenPoint Rated Low Carbon Home	LEED Zero
Program Minimums & Prerequisites (see reverse for details)	Code required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point minimums in each of 5 categories & minimum total points. 4 prerequisites for Single Family 4 prerequisites for Multifamily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Point minimums in each of 7 categories & minimum total points. 16 prerequisites for Single Family 16 prerequisites for Multifamily

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PREREQUISITES	Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Storm water drainage and retention during construction Management of surface water flow through planned grading and paving 	CALGreen Mandatory (CA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floodplain avoidance Construction activity pollution prevention No invasive plants
	Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop water budget conforming to local/California Landscape Ordinance Limits on fixtures (showers, faucets, and toilets/urinals) water usage 	CALGreen Mandatory (CA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water metering Reduce aggregate water consumption by 20% from the baseline
	Energy	Meet Title 24 Part 6 Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All electric single family and ADU: meet efficiency EDR based on climate zone Low and high-rise multifamily: meet T24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum energy performance: Energy Star for Homes + Energy Star appliances + fully ducted Energy metering Home size adjuster
	Material	Waste diversion – 65%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALGreen Mandatory (CA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Certified tropical wood Durability management (water and moisture control) Divert 50-75% of total construction or demolition material for multifamily
	Health	VOC limits on finishes and materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CALGreen Mandatory (CA) Meet ASHRAE 62.2-2019 ventilation standards Radon Resistant Construction in EPA Radon Zone 1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet ASHRAE 62.2-2016 ventilation standards Combustion venting (including CO sensors, enclosed fireplaces) Garage pollution prevention Radon resistant construction Air filtering (MERV 8 or 6) Environmental tobacco Smoke control Compartmentalization between units
	Other	CALGreen Mandatory (CA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GreenPoint Rated checklist in blueprints CALGreen Mandatory (CA) Title 24 report prepared and certified by a CABEC Certified Energy Analyst 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary rating Education of homeowner, tenant or building owner

* GreenPoint Rated New Home projects located outside of California are subject to different prerequisites.

This document is based on a comparison originally prepared by StopWaste. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, be advised that information may change, and that some comparisons are based on professional judgment by Build It Green.

References:

GreenPoint Rated, Version 9.0, <http://www.greenpointrated.com/>

CALGreen 2022: California Green Building Standards Code California Code of Regulations, Title 24, Part 11 (California Department of Housing and Community Development)

LEED for Homes v4: <https://www.usgbc.org/leed/v41>