

BetterBuilt^{NW}

Building efficient homes is easier than you think!

Use these helpful resources to inform your building choices.

Energy-efficient homes provide ongoing value and allow homeowners, builders, and other residential new construction partners to make meaningful contributions to sustainability. However, many builders are unsure where to start. Information about energy-efficient and sustainable appliances, materials and products, and above-code building techniques can be a challenge to find, especially when these products and services are offered by many different Providers. Discovering accurate information about best practices and industry statistics can present an additional challenge. That's why BetterBuiltNW has created this resource list to help builders, Raters/Verifiers, and other residential new construction partners make informed choices throughout the design and building process. This list includes service Providers, reference guides, publications, professional organizations and more. All resources have been vetted and compiled by BetterBuiltNW.

Additionally, many of the local and national Home Certification Programs offer additional resources to participating partners. Not yet participating with a Home Certification Program or want to get involved with additional programs? Be sure to check out the list of available [Home Certification Programs](#) and reach out to the program(s) for more information.

RESOURCE LIST

BetterBuiltNW Home Certification Programs

betterbuiltnw.com/programs/home-certification-programs

Builder and Developer Magazine

bdmag.com

Builder and Developer is a national homebuilder news trade magazine with a focus on production housing.

Builder Magazine

builderonline.com

Builder Magazine provides home builders with home building news, plans, design ideas and building product information. These resources are designed to help home builders manage their operations efficiently and profitably.

Building America Solution Center

basc.pnnl.gov

The Building America Solution Center provides access to expert information on hundreds of high-performance construction

topics including air sealing and insulation, HVAC components, windows, indoor air quality, and much more.

Building Performance Institute (BPI)

bpi.org

BPI provides best practice standards, credentials, and quality assurance services for the home performance and weatherization industry.

Building Science Corporation (BSC)

buildingscience.com

BSC specializes in building technology consulting for all types of buildings including commercial, institutional, and residential. BSC focuses on solving problems related to building design, construction, and operation including moisture dynamics, indoor air quality, and building failure forensic investigations. The BSC website has a wealth of information and articles on building science topics.

Construction Instruction

constructioninstruction.com

Construction Instruction consultants present best building practice methods and a "house as a system" approach, which ensures that each part of the house works in harmony with the others. Construction Instruction also developed the CI App.

DOE Home Energy Score

energy.gov/eere/buildings/downloads/home-energy-score

The Department of Energy's Home Energy Score provides homeowners, buyers, and renters with directly comparable and credible information about a home's energy use.

EERE Building Technologies Office

energy.gov/eere/buildings/building-technologies-office

The Building Technologies Office's Multi-Year Program Plan for Fiscal Years 2016–2020 provides a roadmap of strategies and goals for significantly reducing the intensity of building energy use.

Energy & Environmental Building Alliance (EEBA)

eeba.org

EEBA delivers turnkey educational resources and events designed to transform residential construction practices through high-performance design, marketing, materials, and technologies.

Green Builder Media

greenbuildermedia.com

Green Builder Media is a leading North American company in the residential building industry, with a focus on green building and responsible growth. Green Builder Media helps building professionals prepare themselves for the new green economy by offering print media, online options, demonstration homes, case studies, training and education vehicles, and live events.

Habitat X

habitatx.com

Habitat X produces dynamic conferences and strategic planning events for the Building Performance Industry.

Hammer & Hand Best Practices Manual

hammerandhand.com/best-practices/manual

This best practices manual documents and codifies Hammer & Hand's standard operating procedures for construction practices including field-tested construction details specific to proper moisture management, walls and roof assemblies; as well as controlling heat, air, and moisture.

Hammer & Hand High-Performance Building 101

hammerandhand.com/high-performance-building-101

This tutorial about high-performance building includes benefits, components, case studies, and climate action.

Home Energy Magazine

homeenergy.org

Home Energy Magazine presents reliable, up-to-date information on energy-efficient products and best practices in home performance, energy efficiency, comfort, health, and affordability.

Home Performance Coalition (HPC)

homeperformance.org

The HPC focuses on transforming the market for the home performance industry through research, education, collaboration, and advocacy.

Idaho Energy Code

<https://www.idahoenergycode.com/>

The Idaho Energy Code sets minimum efficiency requirements for residential and commercial buildings. The energy code benefits homeowners, facility managers, building professionals, and code officials — improving building energy efficiency, reducing energy demand and greenhouse emissions, lowering utility bills, protecting consumers, and ensuring safe, comfortable homes and buildings.

Note: This resource houses basic information and guides on residential code, code training events, benefits to Idahoans, as well as utility incentive programs operating in Idaho

<https://www.idahoenergycode.com/residential-overview>

<https://www.idahoenergycode.com/incentives>

<https://www.idahoenergycode.com/value-to-idahoans>

Montana Department of Environmental Quality: Energy Code, Energy Efficiency, and Compliance Assistance

<https://deq.mt.gov/energy/energycode>

The Energy Code, Energy Efficiency, and Compliance Assistance section runs programs such as the State Buildings Energy Conservation Program (SBECAP), the Small Business Environmental Assistance Program (SBEAP), and SMART Schools. Additionally, this section monitors energy data and supports energy performance contracting (EPC) in Montana. The Energy Efficiency and Compliance Assistance section is responsible for education and outreach and providing information to the public on Montana Energy Code and radon mitigation.

National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)

nab.org

A federation of 700+ state and local associations, NAHB represents more than 140,000 members who construct about 80 percent of the new single-family and multifamily homes built in the United States.

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

nrdc.org

With more than three million members and online activists, the NRDC combines the expertise of some 600 scientists, lawyers, and policy advocates across the globe to ensure the rights of all people to the air, the water, and the wild.

NEEA Hot Water Solutions

hotwatersolutionsnw.org

The NEEA initiative to accelerate the adoption of heat pump water heaters in the Northwest provides resources, tools, and support to increase sales and installations of heat pump water heaters.

NEEA NW Ductless Heat Pump Project

goingductless.com

The NEEA initiative to accelerate the adoption of ductless heating and cooling systems in the Northwest provides resources, tools, and support to increase ductless system sales and installations.

NeighborWorks America

neighborworks.org/Home.aspx

NeighborWorks America is a network of nearly 250 independent, nonprofit organizations helping individuals, families, and communities through comprehensive approaches to affordable housing and community development.

NetZero Energy Coalition

netzeroenergycoalition.com

The NetZero Energy Coalition focuses on bridging the knowledge gap between innovators and early adopters. It provides access to information and resources to simplify the adoption of zero energy.

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)

neep.org

NEEP accelerates regional collaboration to promote advanced energy efficiency and related solutions in homes, buildings, industry, and communities. Its members assist the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region to reduce building sector energy consumption.

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships: Energy Ratings work

neep.org/initiatives/energy-efficient-buildings/energy-rating

NEEP promotes building energy rating and disclosure (BER&D) policies that require owners to disclose the energy performance of their buildings to a variety of market actors as a tool to motivate voluntary energy efficiency upgrades.

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships: HELIX Energy Data Consolidation

neep.org/initiatives/energy-efficient-buildings/green-real-estate-resources/helix

The HELIX project facilitates consolidation of energy data in a single portal. The purpose of this project is to develop a database capable of automatically populating real estate listings with home energy information from Home Energy Score and other sources when this data is available and approved by the seller.

Northwest EcoBuilding Guild

ecobuilding.org

Northwest EcoBuilding Guild is a community of builders, designers, suppliers, homeowners, and partners concerned with ecological building in the Pacific Northwest. Their goal is to provide education to transform the built environment for long-term sustainability.

Oregon Energy Code

<https://www.oregon.gov/energy/energy-oregon/Pages/Energy-Code.aspx>

Oregon's building codes are administered by the state Building Codes Division. These codes outline energy efficiency

requirements for Oregon buildings. The codes cover insulation, equipment, windows, lighting, and much more. Our team provides technical expertise, outreach, and

training to building and construction industry professionals to promote better understanding of Oregon's energy codes.

Shift Zero

shiftzero.org

Shift Zero is a zero net carbon (ZNC) buildings alliance dedicated to fighting climate change by increasing the adoption of ZNC buildings.

Sustainable Connections

sustainableconnections.org

Sustainable Connections works with local businesses, government agencies, non-profits, community members, and civic leaders to create strategies and build plans. Their goals include increasing the availability of higher-quality jobs, contributing to business growth, ensuring clean environments, and contributing to reduced pollution. Their tactics are designed to be replicated in other regions.

U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)

new.usgbc.org

The USGBC focuses on transforming the way buildings and communities are designed, built, and operated. Their goal is to enable an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy, and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life.

Washington State Energy Code: Compliance Publication & Tools, Energy Code Worksheets, HVAC Sizing Calculator

energy.wsu.edu/buildingefficiency/energycode.aspx#PUBS

These code resources provide support to those who use the residential sections of the Washington State Energy Code.

Zero Energy Project

zeroenergyproject.org

This non-profit educational organization helps homebuyers, builders, designers, and real estate professionals take steps to radically reduce carbon emissions and energy bills by building zero net energy homes and near-zero energy homes.

Zero Energy Ready Oregon

zeroenergyreadyoregon.org

Zero Energy Ready Oregon establishes market conditions and regulatory framework for every newly constructed or significantly renovated building in Oregon to be built to zero energy or zero energy ready standards.

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE

If you have questions or need further assistance, please contact info@betterbuiltnw.com.