



Welcome to the City of Beverly Hills Green Building Construction information page. The City of Beverly Hills was one of the first cities in California to create a green building ordinance program during 2008. Now the state has developed a New California Green Building Standards Code, or CALGreen, and cities like Beverly Hills are required to adopt them. The new code applies to any new building permit application beginning January 1, 2011.

In general, Beverly Hills building projects must:

- be 15% more energy efficient than minimum state standards
- have Photovoltaics(PV) installed or be PV-ready
- conserve 20% more water
- be electric vehicle ready
- have reduced levels, or none, of volatile organic compound (VOC's) chemicals in building materials

**Beverly Hills Municipal Code CALGreen Compliance Requirements**

<b>Building Type</b>	<b>Building Size</b>	<b>CALGreen Minimum*</b>	<b>CALGreen Tier 1*</b>	<b>CALGreen Tier 2*</b>
Single-Family Residential	All	Required	Voluntary	Voluntary
Multi-Family Residential	Less Than 25,000 Sq. Ft.	Required	Voluntary	Voluntary
	25,000 Sq. Ft. or more	N/A	Required	Voluntary
	50,000 Sq. Ft. with General Plan Amendment or Development Agreement	N/A	N/A	Required
Commercial & Non-Residential	Less Than 25,000 Sq. Ft.	Required	Voluntary	Voluntary
	25,000 Sq. Ft. or more	N/A	Required	Voluntary
	50,000 Sq. Ft. with General Plan Amendment or Development Agreement	N/A	N/A	Required

\*CALGreen Requirements have been amended by the City of Beverly Hills as identified in the [Beverly Hills Municipal Code](#).

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## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ's)**

### **What is the CALGreen Code?**

The California Green Building Standards Code is a new California Code added as part 11 of Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations.

As part of the [California Building Standards Code \(California Code of Regulations, Title 24\)](#), the [California Green Building Standards Code \(Part 11\)](#) is intended by the State of California “to improve public health, safety and general welfare by enhancing the design and construction of buildings through the use of building concepts having a reduced negative impact or positive environmental impact and encouraging sustainable construction practices”.

The requirements contained in the California Green Building Standards Code, also known as the CALGreen Code, apply to every newly constructed building or structure in the State of California.

### **Is the CALGreen Code mandatory?**

The CALGreen Code is mandatory and is expected to be followed in coordination with the other parts of the Code. In addition to the mandatory requirements specified in the CALGreen Code, several optional tiers are included “that may, at the discretion of any city, county, or city and county, be applied”.

As part of its 2010 Code adoption process, the City of Beverly Hills has adopted several amendments to the CALGreen Code to more accurately reflect local “climactic, topographical or geological conditions”.

The City of Beverly Hills encourages sustainable building practices. Its amendments are intended go above and beyond the CALGreen Code to further promote environmental sustainability.

### **What is required to show compliance with the Code?**

The CALGreen Code applies differently to Residential construction and Commercial & Non-Residential construction. In order to best serve the needs of both types of construction, the City of Beverly Hills has created several forms and worksheets tailored to the type of project.

These forms will aid in documenting compliance to the code; however, your main resources will continue to be your plan checker and building inspector. As a new Code, the CALGreen Code will take some adjustment in terms of building practices. The Building and Safety division is here to aid in this process, and is glad to be of any assistance.

For more information, please contact the Community Development Department - Building and Safety by phone at (310)285-1141 or [buildingandsafetyinfo@beverlyhills.org](mailto:buildingandsafetyinfo@beverlyhills.org).

### **Are there any other green building programs?**

In addition to the CALGreen there are several optional third party green building verifications, such as the US Green Building Council's LEED Certification. While these are not associated with the City of Beverly Hills, obtaining such verifications shows a dedication to green building practices above and beyond what is required. They are completely optional; however, they do not determine a project to be in compliance with the CALGreen Code mandates.

Additionally, energy saving appliances and techniques are encouraged as a way to further diminish a building's environmental footprint.