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Metal Buildings: The Green Choice





What is Building Green?

There's a lot of talk out there these days about green building. But what does it all mean?

Building "green" means creating structures that are environmentally responsible and resource-efficient throughout a building's life-cycle: from site-selection to design, construction, operation, maintenance, renovation and deconstruction.

In short, green building saves more than the environment. It also saves money. That's why "green" is defining what the future looks like in cities and towns around the world - and that's why we are an authorized American Buildings Company Builder.

And the best way to build green is to build with metal. Why?

Recyclability. Steel is the most recycled material on the planet. The typical metal building is manufactured from at least 70% recycled steel. Recycled steel reduces mining waste by 97%, air pollution by 86% and water pollution by 76%.

Metal roofs are 100% recyclable, while old roofing materials must be disposed of in landfills. Most metal roofs have recycled content ranging from 25% to 95%. Conventional roofing products have much shorter lives and generally use oil-based products as their primary raw material.

Affordability. Due largely to their energy efficiency, "green" metal buildings cost less to own month-to-month. Heating and cooling loss around doors, windows, foundations and roofing is almost always less with steel buildings than with other types of materials, because of how well steel buildings fit together.

Durability. Steel has a longer life cycle than wood or other materials. Metal buildings are constructed to last, even in the roughest of environments. After the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that devastated Port Au Prince, Haiti on January 12, 2010, metal buildings supplied by American Buildings Company were among the few structures left standing. Even the hurricanes that tore through Florida in 2005 did not destroy metal buildings manufactured and engineered by ABC.

Ease. Metal buildings require less maintenance than most of those built with other materials.

Peace of mind. Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building was designed and built for energy savings, water efficiency, improved indoor environmental quality, and environmental sustainability.

Just as important is ISO 14001 certification, a standard that verifies that a building company continually reduces its environmental footprint by decreasing its pollution and waste. As an ISO 14001 certified supplier, American Buildings Company is dedicated to protecting our environment and reducing waste while helping you improve your environmental performance.

Smart investment. When life cycle costs - the initial cost, maintenance, thermal loss - are factored into the overall value of a roof, metal standing seam roofs are proven to be the most economical investment. The metal standing seam roof can last an average 3-4 times longer than a conventional roof.

The cool factor. Building green with metal isn't just hip. It's cool. That's because the most advanced metal buildings come with "cool" coatings that reflect more of the sun's rays to produce cooler indoor temperatures. These coatings also offer superior durability and fade resistance while making your building infinitely more attractive.

While non-cool materials absorb the sun's rays and generate heat, "cool" resins reflect them, keeping the paint coating itself cooler. Our SP-COOL™ and SmartKote™ coating systems lower your building's energy costs while extending its life. SmartKote™ consists of PVDF resin, acrylic resin and pigments, producing the longest lasting system on the market. It is transparent to ultraviolet light that breaks down other coating systems.

If you're ready to go green with your next building, give us a call. And we'll show you how building green is good, but building green with metal is even better.

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