



# RCAC GREEN SERVICES

RCAC is a proud partner in the growing national movement of community greening and sustainability. As a leader in rural development in the west, RCAC's green initiatives' services can help your community realize a future where healthy communities, a sustainable economy, and responsible stewardship of the environment can co-exist.

Green (or sustainable) practices promote the construction of buildings, infrastructure, and communities that are healthier for residents and the environment. These practices include the use of renewable energy, energy efficiency, water conservation, environmentally sensitive site planning, efficient building materials, and attention to indoor environmental quality.

Going green isn't just the responsible and economically sensible thing to do, it also strengthens and improves the quality and health of your rural community, enhances the bottom line of your projects, creates a healthier living environment, conserves precious resources, lessens your dependence on energy and reduces the impact of national building trends.

By using RCAC green services, rural communities have access to viable and proven options that can provide solutions to address common rural problems. RCAC can offer rural communities a variety of core services that promote green building, green lending, community sustainability, local based economic development, rural leadership, energy conservation, renewable energy, innovations in water/wastewater management, integrated neighborhood design and green meeting planning.

*The following services are offered by RCAC:*

## **Green Housing Development:**

### **Site Design, Green Building, Green Materials Purchase Program and Energy Efficient Performance Review**

Services include sketch plan through preliminary site plan development, solar orientation/analysis, and application of advanced planning principles (new-urbanism, clustering, and smart growth) which all contain elements of green site design. RCAC offers architectural design, passive and active solar specification, material specification, building system specifications, cost estimating and health/performance evaluation. RCAC can provide referrals to green building manufactures and suppliers.

## **Community Sustainability:**

### **Sustainability Planning, Renewable Energy Development and Green Charrettes Facilitation**

Services include assisting communities with planning and development strategies designed to conserve natural resources and preserve local capital while limiting the environmental and social costs normally associated with growth.

## **Green Infrastructure Development:**

### **Drinking Water, Wastewater, Storm Water and Solid Waste Systems**

Is your community considering new, expanded, or rehabilitated drinking water, wastewater, storm water, or solid waste systems? Consider going green. These systems may consume considerable amounts of energy. In addition, wastewater, storm water, and solid waste often have hidden resource value. RCAC can assist your community with evaluating energy, efficiency and resource conservation options. A green infrastructure approach will make the most of reuse and recycling (for wastewater and solid waste), reducing costs and minimizing the use of natural resources.

## **Green Lending: Green Points Lending**

Looking for financing for your green community development project? In partnership with Wells Fargo Bank, RCAC is a now a CDFI green lender. We can walk you through the process of greening your project to ensure your project meets the criteria to qualify your green housing, infrastructure or community facility project for a loan.

*Contact your local RCAC field office for additional information,  
or contact Craig Nielson at 719/207-0035, [cnielson@rcac.org](mailto:cnielson@rcac.org); Ellen Drew at 505/421-0261, [edrew@rcac.org](mailto:edrew@rcac.org)  
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**Creating the Future just got a lot Greener!**