

Cornell LEEDing

The benchmark for measuring "Green" Buildings is the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. As part of developing a sustainable campus, Cornell has embraced the LEED Rating System and requires that new construction and major renovation projects achieve a minimum LEED Silver Rating. Some brief highlights of a few of these current projects are provided.

Physical Sciences Building: Targeting LEED Gold Energy/Sustainability Features

- Demand control ventilation,
- Heat recovery
- Adjacencies with existing buildings save energy for all buildings



Paul Milstein Hall: Targeting LEED Silver

Energy/Sustainability Features

- Green roof
- Chilled Beam cooling
- Daylighting strategies



Plantations Welcome Center: Targeting LEED Gold Energy/Sustainability Features

- Natural Ventilation
- Solar Thermal
- Green Roof



CHPP Office Building: Targeting LEED Gold

Energy/Sustainability Features

- Solar thermal heat/hot water
- Underslab thermal storage
- Extensive envelope insulation
- Energy recovery





LEED/30

In addition to LEED Silver requirements, to support our Climate Action Plan goals of climate neutrality by 2050, projects initiated since 2008 need to use 30% less energy than current energy standards and strive towards 50% less energy. Our current LEED projects are provided below (most of these projects were initiated prior to Cornell's LEED/30 mandate).

Current LEED

Project Name/Completion Year	Gross Square Footage	% Energy Reduction	LEED Rating Target
Physical Sciences Building/2010	197,000	29%	NC-Gold
Paul Milstein Hall/2011	69,000	2%	NC-Silver
Combined Heat & Power Project Office/2010	3,000	61%	NC-Gold
Animal Health Diagnostic Center/2011	109,000	22%	NC-Gold
Plantations Welcome Center/2010	6,000	53%	NC-Gold
Riley-Robb Biofuels Research Lab/2009	21,000	38%	NC-Gold
Human Ecology Center for Science/2011	227,000	33%	NC-Gold
MVR '33 Phase 1 Renovation/2010	58,000	31%	CI-Gold
NC: LEED New Construction CI: LEED Commercial Interiors			

Cornell has completed two projects that have achieved LEED certification. The first is the Alice Cook House (2005). This 125,000 GSF student housing building was the first student dormitory certified in New York State. Our second building is Weill Hall. This 263,000 cutting edge research facility achieved a Gold rating in 2008.

Beside direct energy savings, LEED helps to reduce our environmental impacts through construction waste management, an emphasis on local/regional materials and low-emitting materials. In addition, LEED helps Cornell improve occupant comfort for our projects (such as daylighting).