2023 Vermont's Greenest Building Awards Competition Submission Form

THE 2023 VERMONT'S GREENEST BUILDING AWARDS COMPETITION

WHAT: Hosted by the Vermont Green Building Network (VGBN), Vermont's Greenest Building Awards recognize exemplary buildings that excel in green building strategies - including water, health, transportation, and affordability - and meet the highest standard of demonstrated energy performance.

Winners of the awards are announced and showcased at VGBN's annual Vermont Green Building Celebration.

CRITERIA: Projects must be located in Vermont and have a minimum of one year of recent utility data for a fully occupied and operational building. Retrofits, renovations, and projects completed before 2023 are strongly encouraged to apply. Submissions must be from a participant involved in the design, construction or ownership/operation of the project. Entry is free for VGBN members and $60 for non-members (note, this fee will provide the applicant with a one-year VGBN membership).

Information and application materials to the 2023 Vermont's Greenest Building Awards are posted below for your reference:

Award Categories:

- ***RESIDENTIAL:*** Single family homes less than 5,000 square feet or multi-family homes having two units or less.
- ***MULTI-FAMILY:*** *M*ulti-family building with three or more units.
- ***NON-RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL:*** Any commercial project or non-residential project.
- ***RETROFIT/RENOVATION***: At least 20% reduction in energy use (via pre- and post-renovation energy data), or demonstrate low energy use (at least one years' worth of energy data) once completed if no pre-renovation data is available.

The Awards:

- **Vermont's Greenest Building Award:** The overall highest scoring green building in Vermont incorporating low energy and other sustainability features (both non-residential and residential). Project must also demonstrate an energy use intensity of at least 75% below the regional average energy use for buildings of the same end use.
- **Vermont's Green Building Award:** Projects demonstrating energy use intensity at least 50% below the regional average energy use for buildings of the same end use and incorporating other sustainability features.

- **Net Zero Award:** Annual renewable energy production is equal or greater than annual energy consumption.
- **All projects submitted will be considered for the Greenest Building Award and Net Zero Award*

Application Materials:

- **Project Entry Form:** You will need to fill in all required fields prior to submitting this Google Form. After submitting you can edit your responses up until the submission deadline listed below.
- **Project Energy Template (optional) Entry Form** via Excel

TIMELINE: Submission forms and all application materials to the 2023 Vermont's Greenest Building Awards Competition are due by 5pm EST on Friday, March 15, 2024.

QUESTIONS: Please direct any questions regarding the awards competition to VGBN's Executive Director at vermontgbn@gmail.com. To learn more about past award winning projects, please **click here.**

* Indicates required question

1. Email *

Project Data

2. Project Name *

3. Project Address *

4. Submitter Name *

5. Project name to be printed on potential award *

6. Submitter Phone # *

7. Submitter VGBN Membership Status *

Mark only one oval.

- Current Member
- Not a Member

8. If not a current VGBN member, please confirm submitter is aware of awards submission fee *

Mark only one oval.

- I'm aware, and I'm ok with the $60 submission fee
- N/A - I'm a current VGBN member

9. What is your project category for the award? *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Residential/Multi-family up to 4 units
- ◯ Non-Residential/Commercial/Multi-family 5 units or more
- ◯ Renovation/Retrofit

10. Building / Project Type *

Mark only one oval.

- ◯ Commercial General (use only if space type isn't listed)
- ◯ Education (includes K-12 and college/university campuses)
- ◯ Food Sales
- ◯ Food Service
- ◯ Healthcare
- ◯ Healthcare (Inpatient)
- ◯ Healthcare (Outpatient)
- ◯ Large Multi-Family 5+
- ◯ Lodging
- ◯ Mercantile
- ◯ Office
- ◯ Public Assembly
- ◯ Public Order and Safety
- ◯ Religious Worship
- ◯ Service
- ◯ Single Family Residential
- ◯ Small Multi-Family 2-4
- ◯ Warehouse & Storage

11. Building Area (Gross Interior Square Feet) - *
(note - basement area is not included if not finished and conditioned. Also perimeter is determined by the outside of the thermal envelope, meaning include all square footage within the thermal envelope except unfinished, unconditioned basement)

12. # of Bedrooms (residential only)

13. For commercial buildings, please provide a description of the building's occupancy schedule. For residential or multi-family properties, please note if the residence is occupied full-time or used seasonally. *

14. Project Description: Provide one paragraph summary of the project. *

Energy

15. Please confirm you have a years worth of utility data for the project (note, this a requirement for the competition). *

Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

16. Provide a brief narrative describing the building energy systems, including any renewable energy sources and specific information about key equipment.

Health and Comfort

17. Discuss any features/decisions taken to improve air quality, comfort, health of surfaces, etc. – e.g. ventilation design/testing, choice of building materials, paints, flooring millwork; provide specific information about equipment, materials, and measures.

Local Economy

18. Discuss or list features/decisions taken to use materials/products produced in Vermont or within 200 miles of project location.

Construction Waste Avoidance

19. Discuss any plans during the construction process to avoid and/or deal with waste to keep construction waste out of the landfill.

Water

20. Discuss any water savings features, from low-flow fixtures and plumbing efficiency to avoidance of irrigation, pools etc. in exterior landscaping. Please include specific information about measures.

Location / Transportation

21. Discuss any location benefits for minimizing transportation and encouraging alternatives to single occupancy vehicles, including distance to services, public transit, etc. Also, note if there is infrastructure in place for electric vehicle charging.

Resilience

22. Discuss or list features that show how the building was designed and constructed for durability and resilience; these attributes can enable the project to withstand disturbances, as well as touch on beauty and structure to make the building easily adaptable for future needs, resilient envelope for power outages, etc.

Affordability

23. Discuss how the design and cost lead to increased adoption of green building practices (submit $/sf and a short narrative or explain how the layout/design lends itself to affordability challenges and increased future uptake).
Note - Cost is excluding-site work, land, and subsidies, and includes foundation through finishes. Basement area cannot be included in this calculation if it is not fully finished and conditioned.

Replicability

24. Discuss how the design focuses on simplicity of systems/structure/design and use of easily procureable materials.

Communication

25. Discuss how the green features of the building have been shared with the public. Include information on the following: Number of people served, number of tours, published articles, etc. If there is a specific mission or objective to educate others (beyond building occupants) on sustainable design and construction, please share!

Ecology / Site Impact

26. Discuss considerations on the project's impact on ecology, including storm water management strategies, native plants, habitat construction, other site considerations, etc.

Social Equity

27. Discuss any decisions that were made during the course of the project regarding social equity. Such as what are the potential equity impacts of this project on historically excluded and/or underserved populations?

Embodied Carbon

28. Discuss any design/construction decisions that were made during the course of the project regarding embodied carbon. Please include how these decisions were made and if they were tracked in a certain way for quantification purposes.

Innovation

29. Please describe anything additional that makes this project standout.

Project Team

30. Please list team members, including role, firm name, individual name and email.

Uploads

31. Upload a few photos of the project to be displayed at the awards ceremony (at least 1)

    Files submitted:

32. Upload 12 consecutive months of energy data, can utilize spreadsheet (excel document template here) if desired, or 12 months pdf invoices. Please make sure you include ALL energy sources. *

    Files submitted:

33. Upload 12 consecutive months of renewable energy data if applicable, can upload the spreadsheet if desired (excel document template here), or 12 months pdf invoices.

    Files submitted:

34. **Applicant acknowledged that all submissions become property of the Vermont Green Building Network and may be featured in VGBN electronic and print media. You grant VGBN a non-exclusive license to use this work submitted in connection with the Vermont's Greenest Building Awards.** *

    Check all that apply.

    ☐ Yes, I acknowledge

35. Submitter's Name and Date acknowledging above statement *

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