

A Sampling of  
**MINNESOTA'S  
SUSTAINABLE HISTORY**

1945

---

2004



**1945**

Andersen introduces the Pressure Seal double hung window, which uses a removable sash and pressure-seal weather-stripping to keep out wind and precipitation.

**1952**

Andersen begins using Welded Insulating Glass to provide protection against condensation and frost.

**1966**

The Perm-Shield System, by Andersen, makes its debut. The patented, tough vinyl exterior for wood windows is low maintenance and energy efficient with insulating glass.

**1972**

The University of Minnesota's School of Architecture designs and constructs Ouroboros House, a self-sufficient house with passive solar systems, integrated composting waste systems and a green roof, in Rosemount.

**1974**

The Minnesota Energy Agency is created.

**1975**

The University of Minnesota's School of Architecture designs and constructs Ouroboros House II, a passive solar urban retrofit in St. Paul.

**1976**

The first State energy code goes into effect on January 30th "...to provide design requirements and criteria that will result in the effective utilization of energy in new buildings, additions and remodeled elements of buildings."

Williamson Hall bookstore, designed by BRW Architects, opens at the University of Minnesota and receives international recognition. As one of the first commercial earth-sheltered buildings, it features deep daylighting and views with green roofs and active solar collectors.

**1977**

The National Bureau of Standards, Oak Ridge National Laboratories, U.S. Department of Energy, Minnesota Energy Agency and Owens Corning Fiberglass commissioned The Weidt Group to perform field research into the actual performance of wall and ceiling insulation materials in hundreds of buildings throughout the U.S. Publication of findings lead to broad restrictions on the use of urea formaldehyde foams and stricter Federal and State code requirements for the thermal and fire retarding values for all insulation materials.

**1978**

Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories and the Department of Energy commissioned The Weidt Group to perform air infiltration studies using building pressurization and infrared scan techniques on buildings, including three hundred installed window units as well as spot tests at manufacturing sites. Correlated results formed the first statistically valid study of the field performance of windows by operating type. Publication resulted in industry-wide refinements to air infiltration testing practices and broad code changes, reducing the acceptable air-leakage limits of installed windows.

The 4,000 SF, earth-sheltered Taft Residence, designed by Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A. in response to the energy crisis of the 1970s, is built in Edina, utilizing passive solar features that reduce energy costs and consumption.

**1979**

The Underground Space Center is established in Civil Engineering at University of Minnesota. The Center researched and published seminal works on earth-sheltered, passive solar buildings and other energy efficient technologies.

The State of Minnesota opens a new alternative energy initiative using waste wood to heat a 22,000 SF building.

The Regional Headquarters for the Minnesota DNR opens in Grand Rapids. Designed by Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A. for maximum solar orientation and winter solar gain, an integral component of this project was the development of a wood burning heating system that served as the building's main source of heat until 1997.

**1980**

The Minnesota Legislature establishes requirements for electric and gas utilities to perform pilot conservation programs.

The City of Minneapolis establishes the Energy Futures Committee and develops the Minneapolis Energy Plan and Energy Action Program, setting energy planning objectives and conservation goals for the City through 1990—the City's first efforts at establishing policies to address energy challenges.

The Minneapolis Energy Office, now the Center for Energy and Environment (CEE), conducts the first combined blower door test and infrared scan in Minnesota.

CEE establishes the House Doctor program, performing diagnostic tests, conducting homeowner education workshops, and providing materials and assistance for residential energy efficiency improvements.

**1982**

The Civil/Mineral Engineering Building by BRW Architects opens at the University of Minnesota, featuring the world's first Passive Solar Optic and Active Solar Optic Systems for beamed sun lighting to remote interior locations, hybrid Trombe wall technologies, ground source heat pumps and 3D exterior views beamed to habitable mined space with un-powered Remote-View Optics.

Minnesota begins the monitoring of wind speeds around the State for wind energy development potential at 30-meter heights.

**1983**

Funded in part by Minnegasco, CEE creates Operation Insulation to help homeowners implement major weatherization improvements.

Andersen introduces low-emissivity (Low-E) High-Performance glass with a specialized metallic coating that retards the loss of radiant heat from the inside in the winter and the gain of radiant heat in the summer.

Funded in part by Minnegasco, CEE initiates a multi-year program of field tests of energy efficiency strategies for multifamily building mechanical systems. This research becomes the basis for multifamily efficiency programs in many parts of the country.

**1984**

Minnesota's net metering requirements are signed into law requiring the average retail rate for excess generation of facilities be less than 40 kW in size.

Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A.'s pioneering design for The Itasca converts five turn-of-the-century Minneapolis warehouse buildings into a mixed-use facility that maximizes daylight.

## 1985

Andersen's new high-performance Sun Glass is introduced.

## 1986

The Regional Daylighting Center is established by the University of Minnesota's School of Architecture, in collaboration with The Weidt Group, as a resource to the design and construction community.

The City of Saint Paul installs its district hot water heating system.

## 1987

The Minnesota Building Research Center (MNBRC) is established at the University of Minnesota to coordinate building research, including indoor air quality and models of professional practice for design team integration. Xcel Energy's award winning Energy Design Assistance program was initiated through MNBRC.

Three 25 kilowatt grid-connected wind turbines are installed in Crookston-the first small, commercial scale wind turbines in the State.

## 1990

Originally funded by Exxon overcharge funds, Energy Design Assistance is piloted at the University of Minnesota with the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, The Weidt Group, and Herzog/Wheeler. The Basic Sciences & Biomedical Engineering Building (BWBR & The Weidt Group) was the first resulting project-one of many fully integrated designs for energy conservation and indoor environmental quality to come from this collaboration.

AIA Minnesota establishes its Committee on the Environment (COTE) following the formation of the national COTE in 1989.

## 1991

Target Corporation creates a centralized Environmental Services group with a focus on ensuring environmental regulatory compliance and waste minimizations initiatives.

Andersen develops Fibrex™ material, a revolutionary composite made of wood fiber reclaimed from Andersen manufacturing and vinyl. Among its features are its resistance to rotting, excellent insulation, low thermal expansion rate and maintenance of rigidity in high temperatures.

## 1992

CEE begins implementation of the Sound Insulation Program for the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

The Minnesota Legislature establishes conservation investment requirements for public electric and gas utilities.

Five 120 kilowatt grid-connected wind turbines are installed in Marshall-the first medium, commercial scale wind turbines in the State.

Target Corporation begins an initiative to reduce energy through the use of new lamp technology, and, in the same year, implements a salvage program to promote resale and reuse of damaged and overstock merchandise.

## 1993

Andersen becomes a founding member of the USGBC.

The Green Institute is founded by residents of the Phillips neighborhood in Minneapolis in order to move waste transfer facilities out of the inner city and create inner city jobs by promoting green priorities.

## 1993 (cont)

Xcel Energy launches its Energy Design Assistance Program, then known as Energy Assets<sup>SM</sup>, in collaboration with the State of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, The Weidt Group and Herzog/Wheeler. By 2003, the program had addressed over 230 projects and reduces air pollution by over 209,000 tons per year while saving building owners more than 20 million dollars annually. Cited by the European Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ECEEE) in 2001 as "The Program Most Likely to Meet the Intent of the Kyoto Protocols in the Shortest Time."

Johnstech International hires LHB, Inc. to design Healthy Office interiors to be built in Minneapolis with low VOC materials and IAQ HVAC performance specifications.

CEE establishes a rental energy loan fund with the Minnesota Department of Commerce, providing financing opportunity to multi-family property owners for energy-related improvements; it is later expanded to include single-family properties.

The OEA holds a Buy Recycled Workshop and Product Show, attended by 150 business and government professionals, featuring a session with nationally recognized experts.

Target Corporation publishes the first EcoLogic newsletter, an employee newsletter geared toward periodically communicating the Corporate progress made in Reducing, Reusing and Recycling.

Target Corporation instigates a chemical donations program for damaged product that cannot be resold. Retail goods with damaged or open containers, such as cleaning products and health and beauty products, are collected in the back rooms of stores and donated to local not-for-profit organizations.

## 1994

The American Lung Association of Minnesota hires LHB, Inc. to complete design of its first Health House, one of the nation's first a single-family healthy demonstration homes, by working with the professional community through AIA Minnesota's COTE to develop the building through Design Development.

Xcel Energy partners with Centerpoint Energy Minnegasco to create Energy Advantage Home, which runs through 1996. The purpose of this cutting-edge program was to promote energy efficient and sustainable home building practices in the utilities' respective service territories.

Xcel Energy installs an interactive photovoltaic system exhibit at the old Science Museum to educate visitors on energy from the sun and to collect data on the feasibility of installing PV panels on other buildings in the service territory, including homes. As a result, Xcel Energy installed PV panels on two homes in Maple Grove.

The Minnesota Wind Resource Assessment Program is significantly updated and expanded to include monitoring at 30, 50, and 70 meters heights at fourteen locations. The expansion created the foundation of data for significant future wind development in the State.

The first medium, commercial scale wind farm in Minnesota, seventy-three 340 kilowatt wind turbines with a generating capacity of 25 megawatts are installed on Buffalo Ridge.

Target Corporation publishes the first Environmental Annual Progress Report, a report that summarizes waste reduction and recycling efforts.

## 1994 ( cont)

Xcel Energy is mandated to construct 425 megawatts of wind energy and 125 megawatts of biomass energy in Minnesota.

Hennepin County hires Architectural Alliance to design their new Public Works Facility. The design, winner of a 1998 AIA Minnesota Honor Award, incorporates numerous sustainable strategies, including on-site wastewater treatment, graywater recycling and recycled materials.

## 1995

The State of Minnesota's Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) publishes "Resource Efficient Building," written by WRITAR and LHB, Inc.

Hennepin County makes their Public Works facility a pilot project for their new commitment to sustainable design, which ultimately leads to the development of the County's sustainable design guidelines.

Sponsored by Minnegasco as part of their Conservation Improvement Program, CEE implements the Low-Income Weatherization Program. The Program emphasized cost-effectiveness and energy savings, realizing at least a 16% average reduction in customers' annual heating bills.

With funding from the Minnesota Legislature, CEE produces a report titled, "Energy Efficiency, Economic Development and Reduced Emissions: An Action Plan for Minnesota." The Plan includes a comprehensive set of 61 strategies using market incentives, regulatory changes and education to improve energy efficiency and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in each energy sector in Minnesota.

Several northeastern Minnesota counties receive an OEA grant to develop a mock house (trailer) that displays recycled content building products.

Target Corporation wins the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Energy Star Building award. The Target Store, located in Fullerton, California, becomes a Retail Showcase Building.

Target Corporation retrofits over 600 stores with motion sensors to control lighting in offices and stock rooms; begins installing motion sensors for lighting control in all new stores.

Target Corporation begins replacing black roofs with white roofs as part of all re-roofing projects.

## 1996

The Material Reuse Center, a retail store designed by LHB, Inc. that handles salvaged building materials, is opened by the Green Institute in Minneapolis.

CEE begins implementation of the City of Minneapolis' Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) home improvement loan program.

CEE initiates a building re-commissioning program through the U.S. Department of Energy's Rebuild America project. The program focuses on improving performance of large commercial and institutional building systems while lowering energy use and costs. CEE's demonstration projects lead Xcel Energy to initiate a re-commissioning program to target substantial savings from re-commissioning in their integrated Resource Plan.

The first E85 refueling station is installed in Minnesota. E85, a blend of 85% ethanol and 15% gasoline, is a renewable transportation fuel that burns much cleaner than gasoline and contains a 100+ octane level.

## 1996 (cont)

Xcel Energy completes eighteen 2 kW photovoltaic systems for the Solar Advantage green-leasing program.

Target Corporation joins the USGBC.

Target Corporation implements a hanger re-use program, which involves collecting garment hangers at the stores and returning them to clothing vendors for re-use.

The Weidt Group completes a National Energy Optimization Study for Target Corporation and has since provided energy consulting services for over a dozen new building projects.

## 1997

The State of Minnesota's Office of Environmental Assistance (OEA) funds the development of the Hennepin County Sustainable Design Guidelines as a consensus-based process with regional environmental leaders.

The Green Institute Phillips Eco-Enterprise Center (PEEC), designed by LHB, Inc. with Energy Design Assistance from Xcel Energy and The Weidt Group, is constructed with green building features including operable windows, a demonstration green roof, geothermal heating and cooling, 100% on site storm water management, and many salvaged materials including structural joists. This becomes an AIA/COTE Top 10 Green Projects winner in 2000.

University of Minnesota Research House is designed by LHB, Inc. and built in Duluth to study construction techniques and materials for energy and IAQ impacts.

Northland College hires HGA Architects and LHB, Inc. to design the Environmental Living & Learning Center. With Energy Design Assistance by The Weidt Group, this student housing live-in learning center demonstrates 35% energy efficiency, composting toilets, wind power and 3 types of photovoltaic power monitored by the students. This becomes an AIA/COTE Top 10 Green Projects winner in 2000.

Minnegasco's Low-Income Weatherization Program, implemented by CEE, is awarded the National Renew America Award.

Under contract to the Metropolitan Airports Commission, research engineers from CEE develop a state-of-the-art procedure to evaluate the indoor air quality in homes before and after they receive acoustical treatments.

Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund and the Oil Overage Account funded CEE to help design and install 12 renewable energy systems in 7 parks around the State with help from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Plymouth completed construction of a 32,000 SF project designed by Cuninghame Group Architecture, P.A. with Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc., incorporating a 100-ton loop field geothermal heating system.

Minnesota Department of Commerce provides technical and financial assistance to the Lac Qui Parle school district to erect a 225 kilowatt wind turbine on school property.

Target Corporation implemented fluorescent lamp and ballast recycling program for all stores, regardless of whether or not local regulations required recycling.

## 1998

OEA holds a green building workshop at the UofM's Earle Brown Center for local government officials.

The St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium receives a time-sensitive grant from the OEA for LHB, Inc. to conduct a "Healthy Building Charrette" and review the Mississippi Market Coop building.

LHB, Inc. becomes first architectural firm to receive the Governor's Award for Excellence in Pollution Prevention for their focus on healthy, resource-efficient, sustainable design strategies.

Great River Energy installs three 660 kilowatt wind turbines in Chandler for the State's first green pricing program.

One hundred forty-three 750 kilowatt wind turbines are installed on Buffalo Ridge totaling 107 megawatts.

Target Corporation implements a shopping cart refurbishing and recycling program.

## 1999

Hennepin County Guidelines are revised and named the Minnesota Sustainable Design Guide (MSDG), which served as a regional set of guidelines for public buildings. The Guide was later adopted by several public agencies.

Minnesota Power funds the design, by LHB, Inc., of the Millennium Star Energy House in Duluth, demonstrating advanced energy techniques with an interactive educational website.

Minnesota's Department of Natural Resources has two high performance facilities designed to serve as demonstration projects using the MSDG in out state locations of Tower, by LHB, Inc. and Windom, by Kodet Architectural Group, with assistance from The Weidt Group.

The West Metro Education Program (WMEP) completes its Interdistrict Downtown School, a unique, urban "green living school" designed by Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A., with Energy Design Assistance from The Weidt Group achieving energy efficiency 40% above MN code with daylighting in all occupied spaces, recycled content materials, superior indoor air quality and incorporating the SolarWall product.

The Winter/Spring 1999 issue of the Resource, published by the OEA, was devoted to the topic of "making our buildings green."

Six state agencies collaborate to form the "Smart Buildings Partnership" and produce "High Performance Building Goals," setting forth recommended outcomes including sustainability, pollution prevention, and lowest lifetime costs for the State to achieve in its capital investments.

Minnesota Solar Resource Assessment Project begins to collect data on solar potential in Minnesota.

Xcel Energy is mandated to procure an additional 400 megawatts of wind energy.

Minnesota Department of Commerce and Office of Environmental Assistance partially fund the 135 kilowatt Haubenschild's Dairy Farm Manure Methane Digester.

Andersen becomes one of the original 13 companies to be selected to participate in Project XL, an EPA program for leading companies to design improved environmental performance practices.

## 2000

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) publishes an educational monograph on Sustainable Design, co-authored by Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A. with contributions by The Weidt Group et al.

The City of Fridley partners with CEE to construct a "high performance" house using the America Lung Association's (ALA)<sup>TM</sup> Health House<sup>TM</sup> Advantage Construction specifications.

CEE develops and offers the One-Stop Efficiency Shop small business lighting program for Xcel Energy.

Minnesota installs more wind energy capacity from 1995-2000 than any other state.

Target Corporation develops a training guide for merchants in buying products that are recyclable, have reduced packaging, and have recycled content.

## 2001

The Center for Sustainable Building Research (CSBR) is established within the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture (CALA) at the University of Minnesota.

The State's OEA funds LHB, Inc. to develop for publication, "Sustainable Schools Minnesota," a predesign manual. Elk River School District is a key project participant.

Legislation is passed requiring sustainable guidelines be applied to all projects receiving funds from State bonds. This includes a mandate for 30% energy use reduction in all new buildings as well as benchmarking all existing public buildings for future energy efficiency measures. The project, a collaboration between LHB Inc., the Center for Sustainable Building Research and, The Weidt Group, became known as "B3" for Buildings, Benchmarks and Beyond.

CEE begins a multifamily pilot program to determine which sound insulation modifications would work best in larger residential buildings.

CEE partners with Reliant Energy Minnegasco to provide the Multifamily Facility Assessment Program.

The Minnesota Partnership for Action Against Tobacco funds CEE for a three-year research project on the movement of secondhand smoke between units in apartment buildings including field testing to measure air movement between units along with reductions achieved by various interventions.

Dakota County first publishes its Sustainable Design and Building Guidelines as part of the Dakota County Design & Construction Standards Edition 2001.

OEA awards grant to the CSBR at the UofM to develop the Minnesota Building Materials Database, which is completed in 2004.

Carleton College in Northfield adopts the MSDG for all new and renovated projects on its campus.

Offering green pricing as an option to customers is made mandatory for all Minnesota electric utilities.

Target Stewardship, an internal focus group, is created to lead the Corporation's ongoing efforts to create new interactions between business interests and environmental practices.

Target Corporation implements a cutting edge logistics software system which maximizes its transportation resources resulting in higher fuel efficiencies and lower emissions and reduces its impacts on the environment.

## 2002

The Metropolitan Council builds a new Demonstration Administration Building, designed by LHB, Inc. with Energy Design Assistance from The Weidt Group, for its Eagle's Point wastewater treatment plant that is 70% more energy efficient than code using strategies, including daylighting and the effluent tank as a source for geothermal energy.

At the Dodge Center Wind Farm/McNeilus Wind Farm, the first 10 NEG Micon 900-kilowatt turbines are commissioned and (24) 950-kilowatt turbines are subsequently installed.

The Dakota County Northern Service Center opens. Designed by Wold Architects & Engineers with Energy Design Assistance by The Weidt Group, the project utilized Dakota County Sustainable Design & Construction Standards and the MSDG, including post-occupancy evaluation.

Minnesota Planning publishes "Return on Investment--High Performance Buildings" as part of its Perspectives policy-brief series which calls for the State to improve the energy, environmental, economic and human productivity standards of its buildings through high-performance measures.

Thompson Park Center/Dakota Lodge by Partners & Sirny is completed using Dakota County Sustainable Design & Construction Standards.

OEA's Green Building Website was launched at [www.moea.state.mn.us/greenbuilding/index.html](http://www.moea.state.mn.us/greenbuilding/index.html)

The Minnesota Solar Electric Rebate Program began, reducing the cost of grid-connected photovoltaics by 20-25%.

The first Living Green Expo draws 5,000 attendees to the State Capitol to learn about sustainable lifestyle choices through workshops, exhibits, and vendors.

The 50th E85 station is installed in Minnesota, the most in the country to date.

The Breck School in Golden Valley opens its Activity Center Addition which utilizes daylighting and recycled content materials to minimize reliance on non-renewable resources. Designed by Cuningham Group Architecture, P.A., a SolarWall was incorporated along 75% of the southeast elevation to preheat incoming fresh air.

Target Corporation joins Climate Leaders-a voluntary EPA industry/ government partnership that encourages the development of long-term comprehensive climate change.

## 2003

The Science Museum of Minnesota opens Science House, a Zero Emissions Building, designed by the Barbour/LaDouceur Design Group with analytical design assistance from The Weidt Group for energy, daylighting and monitoring. This project has many significant contributors including Xcel Energy and Andersen.

Initiative for Renewable Energy and the Environment is established at the University of Minnesota with \$20 million in funding directed from the legislature.

Minnesota's USGBC members form a committee to establish a Minnesota Chapter of the USGBC.

The City of Saint Paul adds new efficient burners and biomass to its downtown district heating system.

## 2003 (cont)

The American Lung Association of Minnesota builds a new national demonstration Health House, designed by LHB, Inc., in the City of Richfield using Masterfit technology and geothermal energy. Masterfit is a waste-free wood structural framing system introduced to the Midwest by LHB, Inc.

MN Power and the Duluth Zoo build three renewable demonstration projects, designed by LHB, Inc., including photovoltaic recharges for vehicles, solar hot water heating for the farm animal barn, and geothermal cooling for the polar bear pond.

CEE was one of six organizations chosen to receive the Governor's Award for Excellence in Waste and Pollution Prevention for the One-Stop Efficiency Shop lighting program.

The new Hartley Nature Center building, designed by Stanius Johnson Architects with assistance from The Weidt Group, utilizes integrated sustainable design, including the use of photovoltaics for part of its energy needs.

OEA awarded a grant to the CSBR at the UofM to develop a database of green affordable housing technologies, which is still under development.

Lebanon Hills Trail Head & Visitor Center is completed by Partners & Sirny Architects using Dakota County Sustainable Design & Construction Standards.

MN Health House townhouses at Jackson Street Village open, featuring geothermal, waterproof exterior technologies and resource efficient materials.

OEA and MPCA are the first state agencies to incorporate the MN Sustainable Building Guidelines into a lease document as part of their new 10-yr lease with Meritex Enterprises.

The Living Green Expo moves to the State Fairgrounds and more than doubles attendance to 11,000 attendees.

Minnesota installs more wind energy capacity in 2003 than any other state.

Clean Energy Resource Teams in seven regions of Minnesota are formed to promote grassroots education, resource assessment, and project development using a bottom-up approach.

Xcel Energy is directed by the legislature to procure an additional 300 megawatts of wind energy and, under a Renewable Portfolio Standard, they will be separately required to utilize 10% renewable energy by 2015. The 2nd wind mandate extends the total to 1125 MW.

Target Corporation creates a Resource Recovery team dedicated to end of life management of corporate assets in order to ultimately reduce its environmental footprint.

Target sponsors "It's In the Bag," a plastic bag recycling program by Minnesota Waste Wise.

Target Corporation installs a rain garden at one of its corporate facilities in Minneapolis, photovoltaic cells at a store in San Diego, and a green roof at a store in Chicago.

The Weidt Group receives the 2003 Firm Award from AIA Minnesota for having "...led the local, national and international architectural profession in one of architecture's most significant changes in the last 26 years: the formal incorporation of sustainability into the design process."

## 2004

Target Corporation installs photovoltaic cells in three more stores in Los Angeles.

Sustainable Building Guidelines (B3) Version 1.0 are developed and in effect for all projects using funds bonded by the State of Minnesota.

Phillips Eco Enterprise Center installs a 34-kilowatt photovoltaic system, the largest solar array in the 5-state area.

Saint Paul Public Housing Authority opens its new green office building, designed by HGA with Energy Design Assistance by Xcel Energy and The Weidt Group, featuring daylighting and energy efficiency.

Cargill develops the first corn based fiber, INGEO and partners with Faribault Woolen Mills to make blankets.

OEA awards grants to provide sustainable design and modeling assistance for upcoming building projects at Augsburg College and PuttingGreen, Inc.

EnvironDesign8, Affordable Comfort, and Energy Smart America national conferences come to Minnesota.

The 100th E85 station is installed in Minnesota, the most in the country at this time. E85 fuel (85% ethanol), compatible with tens of thousands of existing vehicles in the State, is made in Minnesota, helps reduce pollution, and reduces foreign petroleum dependency.

The UofM Graduate School approves the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture's proposal for a new MS program with an option for an emphasis in Sustainable Design.

On August 26th, Westwood Elementary School in Zimmerman, designed by KKE Architects and Johnson Controls, Inc. with energy modeling by The Weidt Group, achieved LEED® v2 Certified, making this the first Certified project in Minnesota.

Karges-Faulconbridge, Inc. (KFI) achieved a LEED-EB Gold Certification for the design of its corporate headquarters in Roseville on November 2, 2004—the first Gold Certified building in Minnesota.

In November, the USGBC-Mississippi Headwaters Chapter was granted Provisional Chapter status.

The formation of the USGBC-Mississippi Headwaters Chapter is as much a continuation as a beginning. For all of us, this timeline provides a sampling of Minnesota's innovations and commitment to sustainable design, made by its communities, governments and educational and corporate institutions. This timeline only includes information volunteered by members of Minnesota's sustainable design community and is undoubtedly incomplete. We may not have contacted everyone who could have contributed, and we did not hear from everyone who was contacted. We did no "fact checking," however, on the whole, things seem correct. There may be minor factual inaccuracies due to recollections or editing. We hope that you will overlook them and accept this in the spirit in which it was prepared, as a primer for the newly initiated and a reminder for those of us old enough to forget.

