

Construction/General Contractor Best Practices Checklist

As a contractor on this project, you are expected to implement mandatory and project selected optional best practices identified in the [Iowa Green Streets Criteria](#). Here are some of the key strategies and best practices to be implemented by the construction contractor for this project. These strategies may not be all inclusive for this project as strategies are dependent on project design. As general contractor, familiarize yourself with the best practices checklists for all other trades including HVAC, electrical, plumbing, civil/site, and HERS Rater. See [Iowa Green Streets Criteria](#) for full details.

- Verification:** Work with HERS Rater to achieve HERS Index ≤ 61 (≤ 56 disaster recovery projects).
- Safe Room:** Disaster recovery and select projects follow FEMA guidance in, [Residential Safe Rooms: Background and Research](#), and [FEMA 320](#), to construct a safe room to protect against wind forces.
- Advanced Framing and Resilient Design:** Use advanced framing & resilient construction best practices.
- Air Sealing:** Seal all penetrations, airtight or sealed receptacle and switch boxes on exterior walls and apartment shared walls. Achieve air infiltration levels ≤ 3 ACH 50.
- Air Sealing:** Pass ENERGY STAR Thermal Bypass Inspection Checklist inspection by HERS Rater.
- Paints & Primers:** See criterion 6.1 regarding products with Declare labels and Health Product Declarations.
- Adhesives & Sealants:** See criterion 6.1 about products with Declare labels & Health Product Declarations.
- Composite Wood Products:** Use products that emit no or low VOC.
- Environmentally Preferable Flooring:** Do not install carpets in wet areas. Meet Carpet and Rug Institute Green Label or Green Label Plus certification.
- Tub and Shower Enclosures:** Use moisture-resistant backing materials behind tub/shower.
- Appliances:** Install only ENERGY STAR appliances. Dryers directly vented to outdoors w/rigid duct.
- Windows:** Follow IEDA Window and Exterior Door Selection Guide. No vinyl windows.
- Combustion Equipment:** Specify power-vented or direct vent equipment. No combustion equipment may be used for cooking, including but not limited to ranges, cooktops, stoves, ovens.
- Managing Moisture: Foundations:** Follow best practices outlined in Iowa Green Streets criterion 6.8.
- Radon Mitigation:** Test for radon and mitigate if necessary.
- Garage Isolation:** Install a continuous air barrier between the conditioned space and any garage space. Do not install ductwork or air handling equipment in garage.
- Integrated Pest Management:** Seal all wall, floor, and joint penetrations with low-VOC caulking or other appropriate nontoxic methods to prevent pest entry.
- Universal Design:** Install all applicable no-cost / low-cost universal design best practices listed in Iowa Green Streets Criteria, Appendix M, Universal Design Checklist.
- Operations and Maintenance:** Provide Operations and Maintenance Manual and Occupant Manual

By signing this checklist, I certify I have reviewed the above information and the Iowa Green Streets Criteria and confirm that the project team will incorporate the mandatory criteria into the project.

Printed Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____