GREEN BUILDINGS
Portland State's campus is home to many buildings that serve as models of innovative sustainable design and construction, including nine buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) rating system. Since 2004, it has been PSU's policy to follow LEED® guidelines for all new construction and major renovations on campus.

GEOTHERMAL & DISTRICT ENERGY
Four underground geothermal heat pumps (different than geothermal power) improve energy efficiency on campus by using the natural heat of the earth to warm or cool buildings. These pumps connect to PSU’s Campus Loop, a district energy system that generates steam and chilled water from centralized plants and distributes it underground to 15 buildings. As a result, these buildings don’t need their own boilers or air conditioners and the University benefits from greater reliability, efficiency, and lower utility costs.

GREEN BUILDINGS
1. Urban Plaza
2. Academic & Student Rec Center
3. Bike Hub
4. Shattuck Hall Eco Learning Plaza
5. Native American Center
6. Stott Community Field
7. Epler Hall & Splash Boxes
8. Community Garden & Orchard
9. Bike Garage with Living Roof
10. South Park Blocks
11. Smith Memorial Student Union
12. Reuse Room
13. Lincoln Hall
14. Broadway Cycle Track
15. Collaborative Life Sciences Building

SOLAR PANELS
GREEN ROOF
EFFICIENT HEATING AND COOLING LOOP
GARDEN PROJECT
RAIL TRANSIT LINES
ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION

Follow this self-guided tour to learn about green innovations at PSU.
Welcome to Portland State University

PSU lies at the south end of downtown Portland, where campus buildings are seamlessly integrated with businesses, apartment buildings, public parks, bike lanes, and food carts. It’s part of the SoMa (South of Market) EcoDistrict, where residents, property owners, and planners are collaborating to make the neighborhood more livable by improving conservation and green building efforts, increasing open space and wildlife habitat, and enhancing opportunities for community engagement.

Urban Plaza

SW MONTGOMERY BETWEEN 5TH AND 6TH

The Urban Plaza is a center of activity at Portland State. With the streetcar passing diagonally through the plaza, numerous bus stops, two MAX light rail lines, and a third opening in September 2015, the Urban Plaza is one of the busiest transit hubs in Portland. More than 40 percent of all student and employee trips to campus are made by transit.

Academic and Student Recreation Center (ASRC)

SW 6TH AND MONTGOMERY

In 2009, the ASRC was LEED Gold certified and has many sustainable features. Exercise machines use ReRev technology to generate electricity for the building. Toilets flush with rainwater collected from the roof. All of the wood in the building is FSC certified, and the running track and climbing wall are made from recycled materials.

Native American Student and Community Center

SW BROADWAY AND JACKSON

The Native American Student and Community Center provides a meeting place for students, faculty, and community members to gather, find social and academic support, and engage in cultural traditions and ceremonies. Built in 2003 with sustainably harvested wood and local stone and brick, the building features abundant natural light, original artwork by Native American artists, and a rooftop garden with medicinal and ceremonial plants used for smudge ceremonies, tea, healing salves, and interactive education for Indigenous Nations Studies classes.

Stott Community Recreation Field

SW 10TH AND HALL

It may look like an ordinary turf field, but the Stott Community Recreation Field is made of 150,000 recycled athletic shoes. The shoes were collected in the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe program, which has donated more than 320 recycled fields around the world.

Epler Hall and Splash Boxes

SW 12TH AND MONTGOMERY

Stephen Epler Residence Hall was Portland’s first mixed-use LEED Silver certified building, containing classrooms, offices, and student housing. It features passive heating and cooling systems and energy-efficient lighting. Rainwater flows from the roof to River Rock filled “splash boxes” in the plaza, then through channels between the brick pavers to planter boxes that filter the water into the ground rather than into overwhelmed storm drains.

Reuse Room

CRAFTER ROOM 100, SW MILL AND PARK

The Reuse Room is PSU’s on-campus resource for donating and acquiring used office, school, and home supplies. The door is always open, and students and employees can find card files, binders, notebooks, coffee mugs, and other supplies anywhere—helping to reduce waste while saving money. Join the movement. Give. Take. Share.

Lincoln Hall

SW BROADWAY AND MILL

In 2011, Lincoln Hall became PSU’s first LEED Platinum certified building. Originally built in 1911, Lincoln Hall is a shining example of making a building more efficient while preserving its historic features. Renovations completed in 2010 include major seismic upgrades, a high-efficiency heating and cooling system, and double-paned energy efficient windows, which were custom-built to match existing architecture. The building also features a more than 4,000 sq. foot solar array on the roof.

Broadway Cycle Track

SW BROADWAY AND MILL

Along Broadway, a “cycle track” provides bicyclists separation from car traffic by locating the bike lane between parked cars and the sidewalk. The green “bike boxes” give cyclists a visible and safe location to wait at intersections.

Collaborative Life Sciences Building

SW MOODY, JUST NORTH OF THE TILIKUM CROSSING

The Collaborative Life Sciences Building, opened in 2014, is a LEED Platinum science facility shared by Portland State University, Oregon Health and Science University, and Oregon State University. The building features suspended walkways, capacious natural light, and communal spaces with panoramic views. Sustainable features include green roofs, storm water collection for non-potable water uses throughout the building, and energy-efficient lighting and climate control. The building is a quick bike or streetcar ride from PSU’s main campus and is home to biology and chemistry classrooms and labs.

It all starts here. This self-guided tour will take you to many of the innovative, green features of our campus.