

# MARIN COUNTY GREEN BUILDING GUIDE

## STANDARDS FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS FOR PROJECTS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 1,200 SQUARE FEET

These green building standards have been established so that residential additions and alterations move Marin County towards a housing stock that is healthy for occupants, has limited impact on the environment, reduces demand for energy, and saves the homeowner money over time. This guide is intended to help applicants understand the green building requirements that apply to their project and what documentation is necessary to comply with these standards.

## GREEN BUILDING PROJECT PROCESS

### 1 PROJECT DESIGN

It is important for project owners, architects, engineers, and designers to understand the applicable state and local green building requirements prior to project design. Early consideration of these standards allows for design of buildings and systems that are compliant, energy efficient, and cost effective, and minimizes back and forth when applying for the project permit.

### 2 PLANNING APPLICATION (IF REQUIRED)

If your project is subject to planning review, be prepared to identify in your planning application what compliance methods you've selected and how you plan to meet the requirements. If you anticipate difficulties meeting the requirements outlined in the Green Building Checklist, these concerns and any requests for exemptions should be identified in your planning application.

### 3 INITIAL BUILDING PERMIT SUBMITTAL

Include the following with your initial application for a building permit:

- Completed Green Building Checklist (*page 2 of this document*)
- Completed CALGreen Checklist (*page 2 of this document*), with plan sheet references where applicable
- Title 24 Part 6 energy calculations demonstrating compliance with one of the energy efficiency compliance methods

### 4 FINAL INSPECTION

When the project is completed, submit finalized checklists, including a Statement of Conformance from the applicable verifier attesting to the accuracy of the assessment, with the final permit materials to the building department to have the green building hold lifted.

#### DEFINITION OF "NEW CONSTRUCTION"

Removal or substantial modification of more than 75 percent of the linear sum of a building's exterior walls for each story shall be considered demolition of the building (County of Marin Development Code Chapter 22.130.030), triggering the new construction requirements.

If your renovation project meets this definition, please see the guide for new construction.

For more information, please visit [maringreenbuilding.org](http://maringreenbuilding.org)

**MARIN COUNTY GREEN BUILDING CHECKLIST**  
*STANDARDS FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL ADDITIONS AND ALTERATIONS*  
**FOR PROJECTS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 1,200 SQUARE FEET**

PROJECT ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

APN: \_\_\_\_\_ APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. GREEN BUILDING**

***FOR PROJECTS GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 1,200 SQUARE FEET***

The permit application includes a completed Marin County 2019 [CALGreen Checklist: Tier 1 Standards for Residential Additions and Alterations 1,200 square feet or larger](#)

**VERIFICATION:** The checklist must be completed and signed off on by a qualified building professional, such as an architect, engineer, contractor, or qualified green building professional

**2. LOW CARBON CONCRETE (IF APPLICABLE)**

The permit application includes a completed [Cement limit](#) or [Embodied Carbon limit](#) Low Carbon Concrete Compliance Form

**VERIFICATION:** For the final hold to be lifted, form must be re-submitted after completion of concrete work verifying compliance with the Low Carbon Concrete Standards.

**3. ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) READINESS**

***FOR PROJECTS UPGRADING THE ELECTRICAL SERVICE PANEL***

The completed Marin County 2019 [CALGreen Checklist: Tier 1 Standards for Residential Additions and Alterations 1,200 square feet or larger](#) and plans demonstrate compliance with

CALGreen Measure A4.106.8.1, which provides readiness for future Level 2 EV charging

**VERIFICATION:** Completion of this measure should be confirmed by the verifier of the [CALGreen Checklist: Tier 1 Standards for Residential Additions and Alterations 1,200 square feet or larger](#).

**4. ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ELECTRIFICATION**

Meet the standards outlined for the project in the 2019 Building Energy Efficiency Standards.

While local standards for additions and alterations do not require applicants to exceed statewide energy efficiency codes, be aware of the mandatory requirements established by the state that may apply to your project. Changes that may trigger additional requirements or HERS verification may include, but are not limited to, the addition, alteration, or expansion of:

- Fenestration, including windows, skylights, and doors with more than 3 square feet of glass
- Insulation
- Ducts
- New space heating and cooling, water heating, and ventilation systems

**VERIFICATION:** Compliance will be verified via Title 24 Energy Reports