Goal: Encourage the construction of energy-efficient and resilient buildings

Strategies: Allow buildings that meet certain energy efficiency or green building targets to be eligible for: reduced permit fees, more units per lot area, increased building heights, or larger building footprints.

Examples: Municipalities with green zoning ordinances include: Tredyffrin Township, the Borough of West Chester, Honeybrook Township, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia.

Residential Efficiency Targets and Standards

Checkout the Community Action Planning for Energy Efficiency (CAPEE) tool from Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP). CAPEE is a free online tool that equips communities with resources and knowledge to set goals and prioritize actions that lead to improved energy efficiency and reduced carbon emissions. Upon completion, a customized dashboard will provide a snapshot overview of your community and support for priority-setting. Also included with the dashboard is a set of fact sheets that provide a deeper dive into the specific topical areas outlined in the dashboard. Visit: neep.org/capee
Commercial Efficiency Targets and Standards

Resources

Resilience & Sustainability Planning

NIST Resilience Planning Guide
nist.gov/topics/community-resilience/planning-guide

Sustainable Pennsylvania Communities
sustainablepa.org

Low-cost Financing

C-PACE
thesel.org/get-financing/c-pace/

GELF
reinvestment.com

Building Code Training

Pennsylvania Construction Codes Academy
paconstructioncodesacademy.org

Pennsylvania Housing Research Center
phrc.psu.edu

Energy Efficiency Programs & Standards

HERS Index information
hersindex.com

ENERGY STAR for Homes and New Construction
energystar.gov

DOE Zero Energy Ready Homes
energy.gov/eere/buildings/zero-energy-ready-homes

Passive House Institute US
phius.org

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)
iccsafe.org

Stretch Codes
newbuildings.org

LEED
usgbc.org

Architecture 2030 Challenge
architecture2030.org

This material was prepared with support funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the US Department of Energy's State Energy Program.