



IREM GREEN Facts

The Institute of Real Estate Management is dedicated to supporting real estate management strategies that advance an environmentally sustainable and economically prosperous future.

Our Core Purpose

To advance the profession of real estate management while helping real estate managers prosper and add value to their companies and the properties they manage. We at IREM recognize that the long-term benefits that will result from the green movement are undeniable in terms of social responsibility, reduced costs, increased operating efficiencies, and more. Our members are committed to adopting sustainable building operating practices to help ensure that the properties they manage are environmentally sound, healthy places to live, work and shop.

Commercial Building / Energy Usage Stats

Statistics show that commercial buildings utilize more than a third of our cities' energy consumption. Commercial buildings that have earned the ENERGY STAR label or LEED® certification use nearly 40% less energy than average buildings and emit 35% less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Houston's Ranking

- Houston has previously been named second in the nation in the number of ENERGY STAR labeled commercial buildings and in March 2009 ranked Number One in total square footage of ENERGY STAR buildings in the U.S.
- Downtown Houston currently has 14 LEED® properties and 30 ENERGY STAR buildings which represents 27 million sf – more than any other central business district in the country.



IREM Institute of Real Estate Management

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IREM's Signature Green Event

IREM's annual LEED® and ENERGY STARs Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 to recognize the outstanding contributions of management teams throughout the Houston area who are doing their part to make Houston the Energy Conservation Capitol of the World. Honorees include leading commercial real estate companies who have earned a 2009 ENERGY STAR label for their building or who have been LEED® certified by the USGBC. The IREM event is sponsored in part by the City of Houston, the US Green Building Council Houston Chapter, and the EPA ENERGY STAR program.

Event Stats

- First event, July 2007, attracted 320 attendees and recognized 22 buildings
- Last year's event in April 2009 attracted 550 attendees and recognized more than 140 LEED® certified and ENERGY STAR labeled buildings
- Our upcoming event scheduled for April 13, 2010 anticipates 550 attendees and will recognize more than 160 LEED® certified and ENERGY STAR labeled buildings

Other Green Programs

- IREM Houston became an ENERGY STAR Partner in December 2008.
- IREM Houston holds several green related seminars for Commercial Property Managers and Real Estate Professionals each year.
- IREM Houston has a very active Green Committee that focuses on green related initiatives and education for Commercial Property Managers.
- IREM Houston is a founding partner of "Lights Out Houston" which received pledges from local commercial office managers to turn out unnecessary lights for 111.6 million square feet of office space. IREM Houston will be a program partner for a third year in April 2010.
- IREM Houston's past initiatives have included Green Building Tours, Green Building panelist at luncheons, LEED® study groups and donations to Trees for Houston.
- IREM Headquarters signed a "Memorandum of Intent" with the U.S. Green Building Council July 2008 outlining collaborative efforts to promote green building development, energy efficiency, and environmentally responsible building operations.
- IREM Headquarters continues to conduct webinars on green topics and initiatives and in 2009 launched a National Sustainability Seminar.
- IREM Headquarters has recently published "A Practical Guide to Real Estate Management," a comprehensive, "how to" publication that highlights green benefits and implementation strategies.
- As an affiliate to the National Association of REALTORS (NAR), IREM works to promote the NAR Green Designation to members.