Greening Your Organization

Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) and Practices Workshop
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Sustainable Building

Pam Anderson, AIA, LEED AP
Ankeny Kell Architects

Sustainable Building

"Sustainable development involves...meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

Earth Summit, Rio de Janeiro, 1992

Some quick facts:

Buildings consume approximately 37% of the total energy and 68% of the electricity produced in the United States annually

Buildings account for 12% of the potable water use and generate 48% of the CO_2 emissions each year

Buildings have an average lifespan of 50 years

Where do I start?

- Consider sustainability early in your planning process
- Select qualified consultants
- Use an integrated planning, design & implementation process
- Set goals and priorities for your facilities
- Start with readily-achieved, low-cost strategies
- Keep your budget and stewardship in balance
- Consider your building as a long-term investment
- Follow-through on operations and maintenance

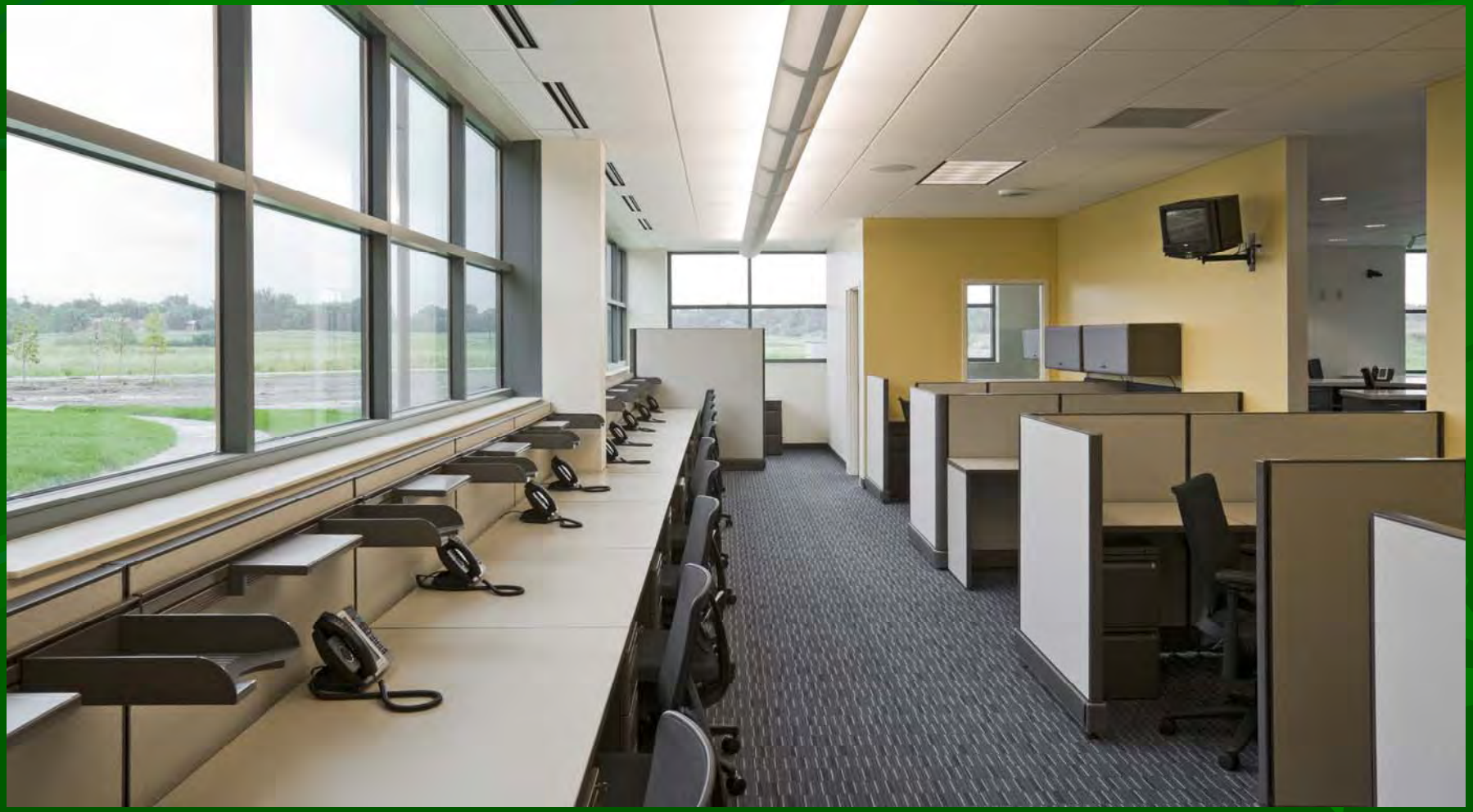
What makes a product green?

- Products made with Salvaged, Recycled, or Agricultural Waste Content
- Products that conserve natural resources
- Products that avoid toxic or other emissions
- Products that save energy or water
- Products that contribute to a safe, healthy environment

What makes a product green?

Products made with Salvaged, Recycled, or Agricultural Waste Content

Salvaged products that save on resource use and energy



Products with post-consumer recycled content that divert materials from landfills

Products made with post-industrial content that allow materials to re-enter the manufacturing process

What makes a product green?

Products that conserve natural resources

Products that reduce material use benefit through resource efficiency

Products with exceptional durability or low maintenance requirements

Rapidly renewable products that are less-energy intensive to produce

What makes a product green?

Products that avoid toxic or other emissions

Natural or minimally processed products that use less energy to produce or emit less toxins

Alternatives to hazardous products such as low mercury or PVC-free

Products that reduce storm water pollution reduce runoff and surface water pollution

Products that reduce pollution or waste from construction or from operations

What makes a product green?

Products that save energy or water

Building components that reduce heating and cooling loads

Equipment that conserves energy and manages loads

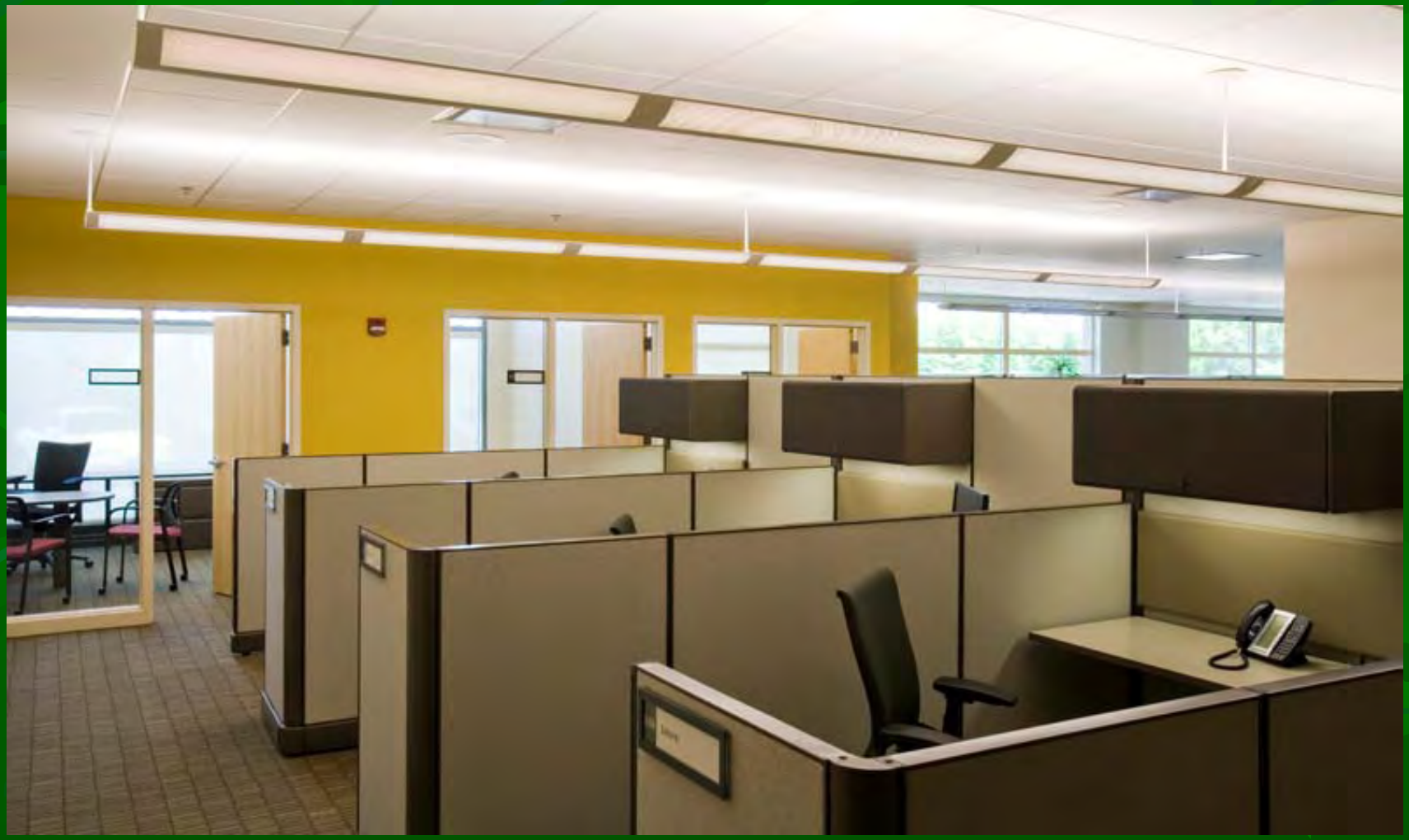
Fixtures and equipment that conserve water

What makes a product green?

Products that contribute to a safe, healthy environment

Products that do not release significant pollutants into the building

Products that improve light quality which is beneficial to health and productivity



Products that help control noise from both indoor and outdoor sources

Why consider sustainable design?

Economic benefits

- Reduced infrastructure costs
- Reduced operational costs

Human benefits

- Increased worker productivity
- Improved risk management

Community benefits

- Reduced environmental impact
- Improved community assets

Remember the keys to success:

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For more information:

www.usgbc.org

www.csbr.umn.edu/b3-msbg.html

www.buildinggreen.com

www.pca.state.mn.us/oea/greenbuilding

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