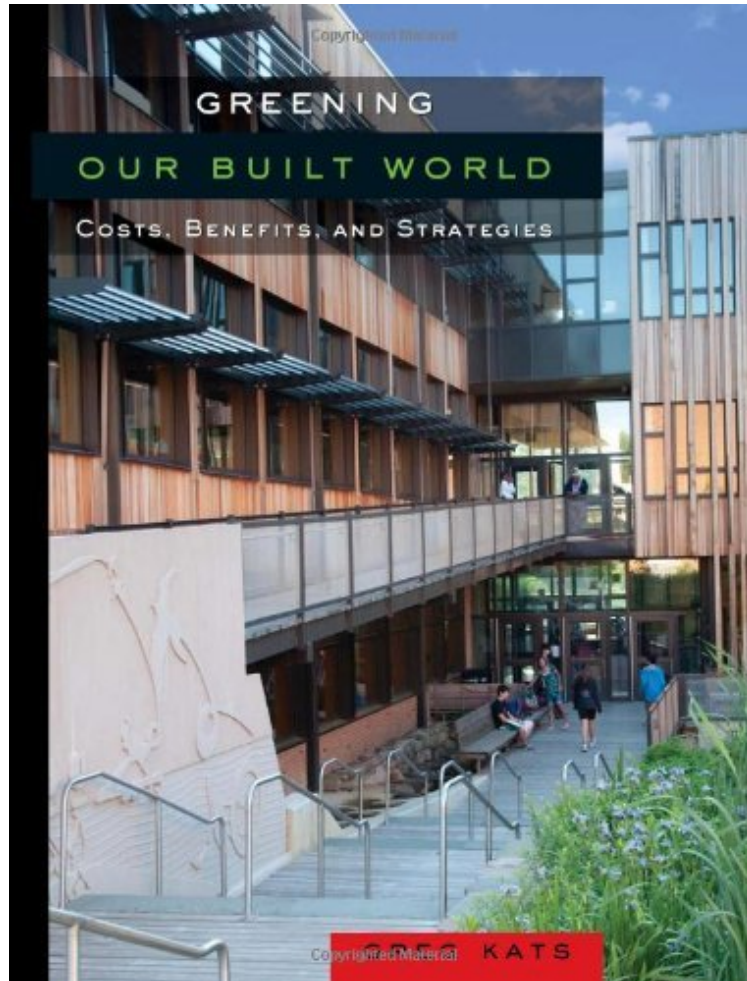


Greening Our Built World: Costs, Benefits, and Strategies

Greg Kats

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Greg Kats : Greening Our Built World: Costs, Benefits, and Strategies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Greening Our Built World: Costs, Benefits, and Strategies:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Not worth the money,By betulaI had to buy this book for class and found it to be complete drivel. I felt that the writer tries too hard to make his case for building green but overall does a disservice because his arguments are weak. One of the claims he made was (paraphrasing here, since I threw the book away after the course ended) that developers can save 45% (or some ridiculously large percentage) by doing x instead of y. I read it and was thought, wow that's a lot of money! So I look up the citation and dig a little further, and the reference was based on ONE building site in remote lake-side Minnesota. Seriously? Building in Minnesota is the standard? I wouldn't recommend this book for several reasons: (1) if you know "a lot" about green already you would find this to be a lousy reference, (2) if you know "some" and want to know more, this may just give you the wrong numbers to work with if you want to talk intelligently with others who actually know more, (3) if you know "nothing" and want a broad overview, you'll be better served by reading wikipedia.I gave it 2 stars because there *were* some

valid points in the book, but you can find similar numbers/stats for free on the internet from the Department of Energy websites and subsites, from your utility, etc. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Data driven EVIDENCE to make a strong case By Jonathan Flaks "I've already recommended this book to a client of mine, a builder / developer who frequently must convince owners, investors, communities and other stakeholders of the benefits of building green. This is his new bible! Thank you, Mr. Kats, for taking what clearly must have been painstaking, comprehensive and exhaustive efforts to gather and organize SO much hard data in such a readable and presentable form. We love all the charts and graphs (some of us prefer data presented visually). This will be the go-to resource whenever anyone needs to "make the case" for sustainable building decisions. Even at a premium price, this book is already worth 100 times that amount in research time and money saved." Jonathan Flaks, M.C.C. - Green Executive Coach 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Practical, thorough, thoughtful--By DC Book Angel Greg Kats has written a useful book--providing planners, architects, and laypersons with the means to analyze and frame their investment in greener building technologies. With so much to be gained from good and thoughtful retrofitting, Greening our Built World, is both timely and important.

"Green" buildings—buildings that use fewer resources to build and to sustain—are commonly thought to be too expensive to attract builders and buyers. But are they? The answer to this question has enormous consequences, since residential and commercial buildings together account for nearly 50% of American energy consumption—including at least 75% of electricity usage—according to recent government statistics. This eye-opening book reports the results of a large-scale study based on extensive financial and technical analyses of more than 150 green buildings in the U.S. and ten other countries. It provides detailed findings on the costs and financial benefits of building green. According to the study, green buildings cost roughly 2% more to build than conventional buildings—far less than previously assumed—and provide a wide range of financial, health and social benefits. In addition, green buildings reduce energy use by an average of 33%, resulting in significant cost savings. Greening Our Built World also evaluates the cost effectiveness of "green community development" and presents the results of the first-ever survey of green buildings constructed by faith-based organizations. Throughout the book, leading practitioners in green design—including architects, developers, and property owners—share their own experiences in building green. A compelling combination of rock-solid facts and specific examples, this book proves that green design is both cost-effective and earth-friendly.

"By every measure, green building is an idea whose time is now. Kats' ongoing work in this area is part of the reason, and this book will be an invaluable resource to builders, cities and companies on why and how to cost-effectively green their own built worlds."