



## EarthCraft Renovation Frequently Asked Questions

### The Program

- **How is EarthCraft Renovation different from a similar green building certification program?**  
EarthCraft Renovation offers remodelers and contractors the unique opportunity to certify projects of various size and complexity in renovation, remodeling and expansion for single-family and multifamily projects. Renovation projects receive an assessment and recommendations for specific renovation techniques to address environmental performance opportunities.
- **What constitutes a renovation for the EarthCraft program?**  
The program is quite flexible regarding what can be certified as EarthCraft Renovation, ranging from partial remodels of homes to a full expansion of an existing home. The EarthCraft Technical Advisor can guide potential clients to see if their project would qualify as a renovation project.
- **What about light commercial projects?**  
EarthCraft Light Commercial FitOut is the program's best option for light commercial renovation projects smaller than 50,000 sq ft. If you are unsure whether your project will fit under the guidelines for ECLC FitOut, please feel free to contact the EarthCraft program at [info@earthcraft.org](mailto:info@earthcraft.org) to explore possible options.
- **Can a project be certified EC-R outside of the Southeast?**  
Yes! Although the project was specially designed for renovating single family and multifamily homes in the Southeastern United States (Climate Zones 2a, 3a, 4a), all buildings can benefit from utility savings and improved performance of their home.
- **Who administers the EC-R program?**  
ECLC and the EarthCraft family of programs is administered by Southface Institute's Marketplace Solutions department. EarthCraft was established in 1999 with the launch of EarthCraft House, a green building initiative for single family homes developed by Southface and the Greater Atlanta Home Builders Association. Today, the EarthCraft family of programs includes EarthCraft House, EarthCraft Multifamily, EarthCraft Light Commercial, EarthCraft Communities, and EarthCraft Sustainable Preservation.

### Registration

- **Does the project team need to be EarthCraft certified to seek EC-R certification?**  
Yes; the general contractor must be an EarthCraft House Builder and hire an EarthCraft Technical Advisor for third-party field verification.
- **When should a project register to seek EC-R certification?**



The renovator should register the project as early in the design process as possible. Projects that are already under construction are ineligible. For information on project eligibility and the registration process, refer to the EarthCraft Program Manual.

- **What fees are associated with the EC-R program?**

All EC-R projects require clients to pay a project registration fee depending on finished condition square footage. The project registration fee includes a design review.

Multifamily project registrations include an indoor plaque to display once the project is certified. EC-R projects will also require an EarthCraft House Builder and an EarthCraft Technical Advisor (TA) as part of third-party field verification. EarthCraft TAs work in a competitive market and will price their services depending on project scope.