



## EarthCraft Light Commercial

Based on the EarthCraft House residential program – which has certified over 6,000 single family and multi-family homes in the southeast – the EarthCraft Light Commercial program recognizes sustainable design and construction practices for small scale commercial buildings.

This regionally-based, third-party verification program was developed by Southface to foster the greening of small scale, or “light”, commercial buildings. Much like the EarthCraft House program, EarthCraft Light Commercial offers an intensive level of support during the design and construction process; focusing on the energy and water efficient design strategies particular to smaller scale commercial construction, as well as prescriptive measures that enhance on-site builder education on sustainable construction practices.

**Criteria for certification includes:** Commercial building projects (new construction or major renovation) 15,000 square feet or less, commitment to a set of environmental goals suited for the project needs, and passing inspections/testing requirements.

### Benefits of EarthCraft Certification

- Integrated systems approach, with increased comfort and improved indoor air quality
- Environmentally conscious design and construction applications
- Coordinates well in conjunction with EarthCraft House, EarthCraft Multi-family, EarthCraft Communities and other popular Green Building Programs
- Efficient use of natural resources; water, energy and building materials
- Savings on building operating costs

**\*\* The EarthCraft Light Commercial Program is Now Accepting Pilot Projects \*\***

## Pilot Program Application and Certification Process

Each Pilot project helps Southface to refine the EarthCraft Light Commercial program and makes an important contribution to the future of sustainable commercial development in the Southeast. Pilot applications will be reviewed and accepted based on capacity of the EarthCraft Light Commercial program and potential for the project to contribute to the development of the EarthCraft Light Commercial program.

The program requires a minimum of 150 points for pilot certification. The following are steps to achieving EarthCraft Light Commercial certification under this pilot program:

- **Initial planning and design review:**
  - Orientation to the program, project review, goal setting and technical guidance
- **Walk-through with EarthCraft inspector after framing and mechanicals are complete:**
  - Opportunity for builder, superintendent, and sub-contractor in the field training
- **Pre-drywall inspection with the EarthCraft inspector:**
  - On-site evaluation of the building envelope and air sealing measures
- **Final Inspection/testing by an EarthCraft Inspector:**
  - EarthCraft technical advisor will verify that Certification requirements have been met, performing a whole-building Air Leakage Test and Duct Leakage Test
- **Receive designation as a “Certified EarthCraft Light Commercial Pilot Project”**
  - Receive “Certified EarthCraft Light Commercial” plaque



Blaylock Lakes 'Hunt Club'  
*1<sup>st</sup> EarthCraft Light Commercial Certified  
Pilot Project*

## Contact Information

For more information on EarthCraft Light Commercial, please contact **Denise Grimm**, LEED AP, Commercial Green Building Services Project Manager, & Program Manager for EarthCraft Light Commercial Pilot Program, [dgrimm@southface.org](mailto:dgrimm@southface.org)