

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



source: <https://sterlingstructural.com>

MASS TIMBER



Mass Timber Tipping Point - Architecture 2030

A two-year project led by Architecture 2030 and Pilot Projects that involved a collaboration with numerous North American architectural and engineering firms, and was supported by grants from the US Forest Service and US Endowment for Forestry and Communities. *Full report and Resource Library available.*

[Read More](#)



How Mass Timber Enhances Wellness in the Built Environment | Sterling Structural

As the world continues to evolve, so does the way we build spaces-spaces where we live, work, and play. At Sterling Structural, we've been at the forefront of integrating Mass Timber into modern architecture, not just as a sustainable material but as a catalyst for enhancing occupant wellness.

[Read More](#)



Mapping Mass Timber - WoodWorks

In the U.S., 2,598 multi-family, commercial, or institutional mass timber projects were in progress or built as of September 2025. See how WoodWorks tracks wood projects from design to completion.

[Read More](#)

Michigan Mass Timber Catalyst Program - MSU

Supporting Your Success: Growing Michigan Mass Timber Momentum
Financial and technical support available - applications due Dec 22, 2025.
Informational Webinar Nov 7 9 AM

[Read More](#)

Events



12-1 PM

[Register here](#)

Implementing the A²ZERO Carbon Neutrality Plan 2025 Session IX: Mass Timber

Speakers: Sidney Filippis, architect and Director of Design, Sterling Solutions; Mark Bell, Chief Executive Officer, Harbor Bay Ventures

Looking for strategies to reduce the embodied carbon in your new buildings? Michigan has adopted the 2021 International Building Code mass timber provisions which expands the use of wood construction from 6 to 18 stories. Mass timber structural systems offer a high probability of a lower embodied carbon footprint. This webinar explores the feasibility, benefits and current implementation of mass timber through the lens of a developer, manufacturer, and architect. Projects in the Midwest, detailing lessons learned from design, coordination, and construction will be highlighted including INTRO in Cleveland.



10:30 AM

"Behind the Drywall" Building Technology Tours

Meadowlark Design+Build and The Bridge! These 1-hour guided tours are a rare opportunity to see the technology that goes into the world's most advanced homes – underneath the finishes. This unique project will have tours throughout the building process to highlight advanced building techniques and sustainable finishes, check back for future tour dates!

Free and registration required

[Register here](#)



10-1 PM

A²ZERO Electronics Collection

Sustainable and ethical technology disposal

Registration required

Register to reserve your spot at a2gov.org/electronics.



12-1 PM

Bio-Based Materials

Speaker: Jacob Deva Racusin is Co-Founder and Director of Building Science and Sustainability with [New Frameworks](#), Vermont-based worker-owned cooperative.

This online presentation hosted by the [Vermont Green Building Network](#) (VGBN) will survey the broad landscape of bio-based materials, highlighting their attributes, benefits, and applications from structure to finish. Product examples and case studies will ground the discussion in

practical reality, spanning readily available substitution options to cutting-edge regenerative solutions.

[Learn more and register here](#)



6 PM

The State of Climate Change and Climate Action, Local to Global

Professor Jonathan Overpeck, Dean School for Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan (SEAS)

He will discuss the state of climate change and climate action in the present political environment. Climate change and its impacts are accelerating, driven by amplifying “feedbacks” in the climate system, as well as increased exposure of humans and their infrastructure to climate change extremes. - *AADL, Downtown branch*



Building Resilience in Michigan: Strategies for a Changing Climate

Nov 19 1:30-6 PM University of Michigan, Walgreen Drama Center - Arthur Miller Theatre

Join [USGBC Michigan](#) for an inspiring afternoon focused on resilience. Hear leading-edge examples, best practices, and practical tools to accelerate your goals.

- Resilience on Campus: Join Shana Weber to hear how the University of Michigan is focusing on resilience and what actions they are taking to ensure their campus meets changing climate needs
- Zoo sustainability in action: Advocates from John Ball Zoo and the Detroit Zoo will share real-world projects, impacts, and lessons learned.
- Ann Arbor's Sustainability Landscape: City and campus leaders will highlight Ann Arbor's aggressive A²ZERO plan for community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030; the innovative, community-owned Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) advancing local renewables; and early achievement of the University of Michigan's greenhouse gas reduction goals and commitment to sustainability.
- Our presentation will include a summary of LEED buildings across University of Michigan's campus, details of the soon-to-open College of Pharmacy Building (pursuing LEED Gold), and insights into the recently opened Leinweber Computer Science and Information Building. Tours of Leinweber will follow the presentations.

Explore these initiatives and more through a dynamic lineup of speakers—then connect with peers during a LEED building tour and networking reception. [More info](#)

SEU "Expression of Interest"

The City's new Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU) is now accepting “Expressions of Interest” from *businesses and residents who would like to learn more* and potentially receive clean energy service from the SEU. This form will register you for occasional news updates and will help the SEU to prepare deployment plans to bring solar, batteries, geothermal, and other energy services to our community. Please fill out the form [here](#)!

New Members

Echelon Kitchen and Bar

Bev's Bagels



The Grove @ Veridian

BYOC Co.
Your Local Refill Station

BYOC Co.

Announcement

The Washtenaw 2030 District was selected as the host organization in Region 9 for the Michigan Infrastructure Office Elective Pay Ambassador Program.

Elective pay (often referred to as direct pay) is a mechanism that allows tax-exempt entities to take advantage of federal clean energy tax credits. Examples of eligible entities that can receive payment for a portion of their clean energy investments include:

- Tribal governments
- Non-profits
- School districts
- Houses of worship
- Rural electric co-operatives

For assistance please contact Kim heumannk@2030districts.org

Welcome Kim Heumann!

Kim is joining 2030 District as an Elective Pay Ambassador to help Michigan communities and organizations take advantage of federal tax benefits. Kim earned a Master's of Environment and Sustainability from UM SEAS in 2023. Receiving her degree launched her into serving two terms as a MI Healthy Climate Corps/Fellow, most recently with the Washtenaw County Resiliency Office. Her time working in local government on climate impacts and building resilience has been a driver in wanting to help communities and organizations move forward on their climate mitigation and adaptation goals. She is excited to work with 2030 and partner with MIO to do just that!



**Welcome
Graham Scholars Team!**

This team will be supporting the efforts of our [Houses of Worship and Nonprofits Best Practice Group](#) (HoW)

[Graham Scholars Program](#)



Hello! My name is Joe Clynes and I'm a junior studying Environmental Science (PitE) at the University of Michigan.



Hi! My name is Rachel Mecca, and I'm a junior at the University of Michigan majoring in Computer



Hi! My name is Willa Cornillie and I am a junior majoring in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology as well as Environmental Science. I'm really interested in conservation and ecological restoration as well as agroecology, as I grew up on my family's farm in central Michigan. I also love to hike, play tennis, and go camping in my free time. I'm so excited to begin working with Washtenaw 2030! I have never worked directly on a project related to renewables before, and I am excited to learn more as it is such an important component not only in the field of environmental science but in building a more sustainable world. I really look forward to seeing the impact we can make through our project!

Sustainability is one of my passions, and I hope to work in sustainable development in the future, so I can't wait to work with Washtenaw 2030 to help them reach their sustainability goals and to enhance my data analysis skills through a sustainability lens.



Hello! My name is Dani Kasper and I am a junior majoring in Environmental Studies with a minor in Community Action and Social Change! I am very passionate about climate resiliency, community engagement, grassroots activism, and environmental policy! In my free time I like to make jewelry, hammock, play tennis, and spend time with friends. I am so excited to work with Washtenaw 2030 and the houses of worship to advance the county's climate goals and work firsthand with the community in decarbonization!

Science with a minor in Environment. I'm passionate about using computing to make systems more efficient and sustainable. I love hiking and trail running, which constantly remind me why protecting our environment matters. I'm excited to work with the Washtenaw 2030 District to help advance local sustainability goals!



My name is Mason Johnson. I am a junior studying Earth and Environmental science with minors in energy science and geospatial science. I am from Ann Arbor, Michigan so I am excited to spend time working in the community I grew up in. I am passionate about clean energy systems and social sustainability. I look forward to working with the Washtenaw 2030 District to build my data analysis skills, and further decarbonization efforts in Michigan.

News



RMI Electricity Affordability Toolkit

Electricity costs are rising, driven by factors like load growth, extreme weather, and aging grid infrastructure. Trends like these are putting increased pressure on households across the country, especially those with low incomes or living in older or inefficient housing. Fortunately,



Michigan Clean Manufacturing Roadmap - RMI

RMI's report outlines a path for state policymakers to meet the climate and health targets mandated by the Michigan Healthy Climate Plan while maintaining the state's manufacturing might

state policymakers have many tools at their disposal to respond. This resource lists more than two dozen of those tools to help legislators, staff, and advocates identify and advance effective electricity affordability solutions. It provides a curated set of actionable, state-level policies with real-world examples and options to filter policies to align with state context, interests, and goals.

[Read More](#)



The Climate Smart Communities Initiative (CSCI) is pleased to announce the launch of the 2026 CSCI grants competition.

CSCI awards provide funding and technical assistance to advance community-based climate resilience in communities or regions that are highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Grants typically range from \$60,000 to \$115,000 based on the scope of work proposed in the application.

[Read More](#)

Manufacturing is a driving force of the Michigan economy: approximately 600,000 Michiganders are employed in manufacturing jobs, and the state was the seventh-largest exporter of goods in the nation in 2024. The industrial sector is also a significant source of climate pollution, comprising 13% of Michigan's total emissions.

[Read More](#)



This startup's electric roasters cut carbon and costs from coffee-making

Bellwether produces all-electric, efficient machines that replace gas-burning roasters, giving cafes a sustainable – and affordable – way to roast their own blends.

[Read More](#)

Member Resources

ICYMI - Green Rental Housing Webinar



Green Rental Housing Learning Session

Joe Lange, Senior Energy Analyst
City of Ann Arbor
Office of Sustainability and Innovations
jlange@a2gov.org

Learn how to save money, stay compliant, and simplify planning

[Webinar recording](#)

Resources:

- [Landlord resource hub](#)
- [Renter education packet](#)
- [Rental Housing Services contact information](#) (reach out to Brandi Lewis)

A²ZERO Heat Pump Concierge

OSI is delighted to announce our new A²ZERO Heat Pump Concierge, where users can input home information to generate initial heat pump system design options in a process that takes approximately five minutes. Together, this information aims to empower residents to choose the heat pump that's right for them, including any and all necessary improvements that might be needed as part of



transitioning from fossil gas heat to heat pumps. The entire process is free for Ann Arbor residents. Learn more at osi.a2gov.org/HeatPumpConciierge!

Rebates Renewed and Updated

As of July 1, 2025, all Home Energy Rebate categories have been refreshed. Categories that ran out of money in the previous fiscal year are open and available to be drawn from again. Households can get tens of thousands of dollars in rebates! Learn more and finance your home energy improvements at osi.a2gov.org/rebates.



Commercial EV Charger Program

Applications for the City of Ann Arbor's Commercial EV Charger Program are now live! With the goal of increasing the availability of publicly accessible EV chargers, the Commercial EV Charger Program provides an opportunity for commercial and multifamily property owners in Ann Arbor to receive up to four FREE level 2 EV chargers. To learn more about the program and view the application, visit osi.a2gov.org/evchargerprogram.



DTE 2025 Programs

[Small and Medium Business](#) Bonuses (end 12/1/25):

- 60% bonus on select interior lighting projects
- 40% bonus on select exterior lighting projects
- 20% bonus on all refrigeration projects

Multifamily (applications due 11/30/25)

[Multifamily Overview](#)

[Income Qualified Catalog](#)

[Market Rate Catalog](#)

Energy Management Grants

Ann Arbor / Washtenaw 2030 District 2024 Energy Management Grant Program. Member buildings are eligible for grant funding for Energy Audits, Retro Commissioning and Electrification Plans. We support you wherever you are on your carbon neutrality journey. Contact: jculbertson@2030Districts.org if you are interested in learning more.

ANN ARBOR/WASHTENAW



The Washtenaw 2030 District is funded by our members, DTE, the City of Ann Arbor and EGLE. We are accelerating our work locally because climate change is a serious and immediate threat. Science, our community, and the global market place will not be deterred in

[Membership/
Support Info](#)

accomplishing the energy transformation that is required for our planet's and nation's resilience.

Thank you to our Michigan 2030 Statewide Supporters

Gold Supporters



Silver Supporters



Supporters



Stay up to date with A²ZERO's newsletter and events [HERE](#)



BEACON Newsletter - Architecture 2030

Spotlighting the leaders who are designing built environments that support healthy, vibrant and equitable living, highlighting pockets of the future alive and thriving in the present. [Check it out here!](#)



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