What is the Philadelphia 2030 District?

Convened by Green Building United, it is a voluntary effort by the owners, managers, and developers of the city’s largest buildings to achieve deep reductions in energy use, water use, transportation emissions, and to improve stormwater management.

Why is this initiative important to Philadelphia?

With buildings and industry accounting for 79 percent of carbon emissions in Philadelphia, the 2030 District presents a great opportunity to reduce the region’s impact on climate change.

In addition, Philadelphia’s benchmarking and disclosure law requirement that buildings of 50,000 square feet report their energy and water use has created a wealth of data and awareness as to how the city’s largest buildings are performing. The Philadelphia 2030 District seeks to turn this awareness into action by supporting some of the city’s largest buildings in voluntary efforts to reduce their environmental impact while saving money.

What are the goals?

**Energy use:** 50% reduction from 2003 CBECS baseline by 2030  
**use:** 50% reduction from baseline* by 2030  
**Transportation use:** 50% reduction from baseline* by 2030  
**Stormwater:** 100 Greened Acres Districtwide  
*Working groups calculated local water, stormwater, and transportation baselines.

What are the benefits to participants?

- Invitations to bi-monthly, member-only district partner meetings with the opportunity to present at the meetings.  
- Recognition of properties in all publicized property partner lists and maps.  
- Education and training opportunities from Green Building United.  
- Confidential building-level performance reports.  
- Marketing tool to attract tenants and demonstrate a commitment to sustainability.
Who are participating property partners?

Brandywine Realty Trust | Drexel University | SEPTA | Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House
School District of Philadelphia | 2101 Cooperative | Independence Blue Cross | City of Philadelphia
CBRE | Bedrock Group LLC | Kaiserman Company | Pennrose | Two Liberty Place | SSH Real Estate | The Philadelphian

The District’s property partners have committed over 23 million square feet of building space in our traditional 2030 boundary, and over 49 million total including our large portfolio partners, to meet the goals of the district.

How will property partners reach their goals?

Property partners will reach their goals through sophisticated operations, robust tenant engagement, as well as strategic investments in conservation and efficiency strategies.

Do you have to be a property owner or manager to participate?

Utilities, government, non-profits, design professionals, energy services companies and civic organizations can join the district as well, should they have resources or expertise to help property partners reach the goals of the district.

Participation is limited for these participant types, as the district seeks to maintain its share of representation from the owner-manager community.

What are the district boundaries?

(Approximate boundaries: N – Spring Garden Street and Powelton Ave, S – Walnut Street, W – 40th Street, E – Interstate 95. Committed properties in green.)

Do 2030 Districts exist elsewhere?

We are part of a network of twenty-four 2030 Districts throughout the United States and Canada. A total of 494 million square feet of building space has committed to meeting the goals worldwide.


To learn more, please contact Sophia Winston, Program Manager, at swinston@greenbuildingunited.org.