

# Green Design

## What is green design?

A recent report of the US Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, described "green design" as a process by which "environmental attributes are treated as design objectives, rather than as constraints. A key point is that green design incorporates environmental objectives with minimum loss to product performance, useful life, or functionality." Through minimization of waste and systems thinking, EDD applies the "green design" principles to many different types and scales of projects.

A "green" approach to **water resources engineering** systems involves the design of sites and infrastructure such as open channels, culverts, spillways, drainage and treatment systems and site plans that sustain landscape eco-hydrology. These projects are primarily in the fields of **stormwater and wastewater treatment and reuse, low impact development, and ecological restoration.**

On the **building scale**, our LEED certified architect and engineers work with property owners to develop smart building designs and systems. Our work is primarily in the fields of building **water and energy systems.** Recent work includes the design of a rainwater harvesting and reuse system that uses rooftop rainwater for toilet flushing and site irrigation a commercial building in NYC, and the installation of a 2.7 KW solar photovoltaic system on St. Matthews RC Church, the first church building to harvest solar electricity in New York City. We are also working with the NYC Department of Environmental Protection to assess the structural capacity of ten NYC residential buildings to support **green roofs.**

