

## **Sharon Patterson Grant, EcoEdge**

Sharon Patterson Grant, LEED AP BD+C and Homes, has been providing green building consulting and education since 2006 when she founded her company Eco Edge. She later joined Ken Baker and Suzie Hall in Green Steps to consult with the largest commercial property owners and managers in Idaho to adopt strategic energy management. Both companies specialize in facilitating greater adoption of sustainable building practices through education, energy codes, direct consulting and outreach.

Sharon has consulted on over 95 LEED homes, neighborhoods and commercial buildings across the Pacific Northwest, and has developed and taught dozens of LEED workshops. The majority of projects are certified at Platinum, the highest level. Sharon was also an ambassador and trainer for the Living Building Challenge, which is a certification system that goes beyond LEED to net zero energy and water.

To raise the minimum standard for energy efficiency in buildings, Sharon has worked with the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA), Bonneville Power Administration and the Idaho State Office of Energy Resources to provide education, co-facilitate a statewide energy code collaborative, perform cost analysis and secure grants to conduct statewide market assessments. She contributed to a white paper for Pacific Northwest National Laboratory on incorporating building orientation into codes. Sharon initiated a collaboration with Idaho Power Company on outreach and education that resulted in messaging about the value of energy codes in 250,000 newspaper inserts twice a year. She has also worked directly with the City of Ketchum, Hailey and Blaine County to adopt and implement above code standards by collecting research, conducting analysis and presenting at public hearings.

To foster energy conservation in jurisdictions, Sharon has worked with partners such as New Buildings Institute to develop energy reduction plans for the City of Boise and State of Idaho through funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and NEEA. Boise adopted a vision that is aligned with the 2030 Challenge, is benchmarking over 80 buildings in Portfolio Manager, has defined a comprehensive framework for energy goals, hired staff to support energy initiatives, is auditing existing buildings, creating higher standards for new construction and is creating a LIV District to launch initiatives such as an energy disclosure ordinance. Sharon led on-the-ground facilitation for the project.

For the commercial real estate market, Green Steps, has held several contracts with the NEEA and Idaho Power to foster market advancement in energy efficiency by working with over 45 buildings to compete on energy savings and consulting with several leading property management firms, organizations and hotels to adopt strategic energy management to achieve significant energy savings of 20 to 40 percent.

Sharon is a passionate advocate for better buildings in Idaho. For the USGBC, Sharon was chair and vice chair of the Idaho Chapter for 4 years, and was national co-chair for the Build Better Codes campaign. Other board positions include GreenWorks, Northwest Integrity Housing Co., Idaho Smart Growth and Ketchum Energy Advisory Committee. Her work received Idaho Grow Smart Awards in 2008, 2009 and 2011 and a Better Bricks Award in 2010. She is a published author on green building and was the founding host of "Building a Greener Idaho," a weekly radio show on Radio Boise.

As a Certified Sustainable Building Advisor and a Healthy Homes Specialist, Sharon has taught at BSU and Maui Community College and presented at conferences for National DOE Energy Codes, Healthy Homes, EEBA, National Environmental Health Association, Region 10 EPA, Sun Valley Sustainability Conference and Idaho Green Expo. As a Provider and Instructor with ID and WY Real Estate Commissions, she has provided green building classes to hundreds of real estate professionals. Her company was a Proprietary School in Idaho and launched the Sustainable Building Advisor Program in Idaho. Sharon has degrees in Ecological Design and Business.