Discover Sustainable Downtown Austin

Tour Green Buildings, Local-Food Eateries, Cultural Sites, Biking & Walking Features, Rail Transit, Farmers Market, Recycling Centers, Urban Nature & More

Office of Sustainability
GREEN GEMS

Points of Interest

See detailed descriptions on back

Green Building

1. AUSTIN CITY HALL
   301 Willie Nelson Blvd. (W. 2nd St.)

2. W HOTEL & CONDOS/
   AUSTIN CITY LIMITS LIVE
   200 Lavaca St.

3. AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER
   200 Congress Ave.

4. THE AUSTONIAN
   500 E. Cesar Chavez St.

5. CARR AMERICA
   300 W. Sixth St.

6. WHOLE FOODS MARKET
   525 N. Lamar Blvd.

7. THE ALLEY FLAT INITIATIVE
   PILOT PROJECT
   904 Lydia St.

8. CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL
   Eighth & Congress

Green/Sustainable Infrastructure

9. PAUL ROBBINS DOWNTOWN
   DISTRICT COOLING PLANT
   300 San Antonio St.

10. MEXICAN AMERICAN
    CULTURAL CENTER
    600 River St.

Mobility

11. SOLAR PUMP CHARGING STATION
    S. First St. at Live Oak

12. BIKE CORRAL
    711 Red River St.

13. METRORAIL DOWNTOWN STATION
    401 E. Fourth St.

14. MELLOW JOHNNY’S BIKE SHOP
    400 Nueces St.

15. LANCE ARMSTRONG BIKEWAY

16. PFLUGER PEDESTRIAN/
    BICYCLE BRIDGE OVER
    LADY BIRD LAKE

17. ELECTRIC VEHICLE
    CHARGING STATIONS

Recycling

18. ECOLOGY ACTION
    707 E. Ninth Street

19. BIGBELLY SOLAR COMPACTORS

Ecology and Wildlife

20. URBAN BAT COLONY
    Ann Richards Congress Ave. Bridge

21. TRASH BOOMS ON
    LADY BIRD LAKE

22. BIOFILTRATION POND
    Cesar Chavez at Lamar Blvd.

23. GROW GREEN
    DEMONSTRATION GARDENS
    One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd.

Local Food

Restaurants that source local foods when possible.

24. AUSTIN FARMERS MARKET
    DOWNTOWN
    422 Guadalupe St.

25. LEAF SALAD
    419 W. Second St.

26. 24 DINER
    600 N. Lamar Blvd.

27. CHEZ NOUS
    510 Neches St.

28. COUNTER CAFÉ
    626 N. Lamar Blvd.

29. LA CONDESA
    400 W. Second St.

30. MANUEL’S
    310 Congress Ave.

31. PARKSIDE
    310 Congress Ave.

32. SECOND BAR + KITCHEN
    200 Congress Ave.

33. TNT (TACO AND TEQUILA)
    507 Pressler St.

34. TRACE (AT THE W HOTEL)
    200 Lavaca St.

35. WALTON’S FANCY & STAPLE
    609 W. Sixth St.

36. WINK
    1014 N. Lamar Blvd.

37. EAST SIDE SHOWROOM
    1100 E. Sixth St.

38. BLUE DAHLIA
    1115 E. 11th St.

Please give us your feedback about this map: sustainability@austintexas.gov
1. **AUSTIN CITY HALL**
The seat of City government embodies the City’s commitment to sustainability. Features local and recycled materials, rainwater collection, solar panels that shade outdoor seating, native plants, green roof with water and energy efficiencies and an electric vehicle recharging station. Local art on public exhibition. LEED® Gold certified.

2. **W HOTEL & CONDOS / AUSTIN CITY LIMITS LIVE**
This project, known as “Block 21”, houses the W Hotel and Condominiums, and the Austin City Limits recording studio for the television show of the same name. The project is working towards LEED® certification, and features water and energy efficiency, green materials, and a zero waste management plan.

3. **AUSTIN CONVENTION CENTER**
The Convention Center is Certified LEED® Gold for Existing Buildings – one of only two LEED® Certified Convention Centers in the world. Composting efforts now divert 68% of waste from landfills. Powered by 100% Green Choice energy. Uses recycled glass for mulch. Parking for over 30 alternative fuel vehicles.

4. **THE AUSTONIAN**
Austin’s tallest building incorporate a 19th century blacksmith shop into the ground floor façade. Among many other sustainable features, the condo tower uses rain water for irrigation and captures and stores A/C condensation. Highest Austin Energy Green Building 5 Star rating.

5. **CARR AMERICA**
This building has a separate closed loop A/C system for after-hours cooling and a high-efficiency air filtration system, as well as energy efficient lighting with daylight harvesting. Austin Energy Green Building 3 Star rating.

6. **WHOLE FOODS MARKET**
Whole Foods is the first major retailer to offset 100% of its energy use with wind energy credits. This flagship store and corporate headquarters utilizes green building practices, including solar power. Company-wide recycling; supports locally grown produce and materials. LEED® Commercial Interiors Certified.

7. **THE ALLEY FLAT INITIATIVE – PILOT PROJECT**
“Alley Flats” are small, detached residential units accessed from alleyways. One of several pilot projects that add small, affordable new units in older neighborhoods. Alley Flats in this neighborhood sponsored by UT Center for Sustainable Development, GNDC and ACDDC. Austin Energy Green Building Certified.

8. **CHIPOTLE MEXICAN GRILL**
In addition to their use of locally grown produce and exemplary recycling efforts, this location is an excellent example of building-shell reuse. 4 Star Austin Energy Green Building rating.

9. **PAUL ROBBINS DOWNTOWN DISTRICT COOLING PLANT**
This energy-efficient approach to air conditioning delivers chilled water to large downtown buildings. The chiller makes ice overnight, when power is relatively inexpensive. (There are actually two plants located at Third & San Antonio and Fifth & Sabine).

10. **MEXICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER**
Note the rainwater-pervious parking lot, with alternating layers of grass sod, recycled plastic, and recycled crushed glass. Electric vehicle charging station.

11. **SOLAR PUMP CHARGING STATION**
Charge electric bikes, scooters, cell phones, and laptops with solar energy, at South First Food Court, in a City IBIZ District that promotes local businesses. Austin’s only public solar charging station.

12. **BIKE CORRAL**
This innovative on-street bike parking corral, requested by Beerland, accommodates 12 cycling customers where previously just one vehicle could park.

13. **METORAIL DOWNTOWN STATION**
Catch MetroRail from the Convention Center to eight other Red Line stations; ticket vending machine and digital signage with real-time train arrival info.

14. **MELLOW JOHNNY’S BIKE SHOP**
Rent bikes here for a half or full day. Store, café, training; showers, storage and lockers for bicycle commuters.

15. **LANCE ARMSTRONG BIKEWAY**
This six-mile bikeway provides a dedicated (partially off-street) east-west route through Downtown, to encourage safe recreational and commuter cycling. Two of three project phases are completed. This marked bike lane/shared roadway, will run from Veterans Drive and Lake Austin to East 5th Street and Shady Lane.

16. **PFLUGER PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE BRIDGE OVER LADY BIRD LAKE**
Stroll, jog, and cycle safely across Lady Bird Lake on this bridge, which offers scenic river views, seating and planting areas.

17. **ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS**
Plug-in electric vehicles now can use a network of over 50 charging stations in Austin. Downtown area locations include City Hall, St. David’s Episcopal Church, Austin Convention Center, Mexican American Cultural Center, Palmer Events Center, Town Lake Center, and One Texas Center. See full “Austin Charging Stations” map at www.pluginpartners.com.

18. **ECOLOGY ACTION**
Drop off sorted recyclables 24/7 at Austin’s downtown recycling center. Accepts items not accepted in curbside recycling, including plastic bags and phone books. Commercial recycling and compost pick-up services available.

19. **BIGBELLY SOLAR COMPACTORS**
These solar-powered trash compactors replaced 14 regular trash cans along Guadalupe and can hold four times as much trash. System lowers City costs, fuel consumption, and greenhouse gas emissions. These are at other locations around town including City Hall.

20. **URBAN BAT COLONY AT ANN RICHARDS CONGRESS AVENUE BRIDGE**
A testament to Austin’s commitment to wildlife preservation, this bridge is the home to the world’s largest urban bat colony.

21. **TRASH BOOMS ON LADY BIRD LAKE**
Special booms are used at the foot of creeks like Shoal Creek to collect excess waste dumped from upstream.

22. **BIOFILTRATION POND CESAR CHAVEZ AT LAMAR BLVD.**
This pond slows the flow of stormwater full of sediment, oil, trash and filters these materials before releasing treated water into Lady Bird Lake.

23. **GROW GREEN DEMONSTRATION GARDENS**
Visit these gardens to see and learn about environmentally friendly landscape ideas and solutions. At One Texas Center (beside front door and along Threadgills side).

24. **AUSTIN FARMERS MARKET DOWNTOWN**
This Sustainable Food Center market, open Saturdays 9am – 1pm, offers fresh local produce. Support local farming and “locavore” eating in a fun, sociable park setting in Republic Square.

25. **LOCAL FOOD**
Eateries listed are representative of the many Austin restaurants that support local farmers by using locally sourced ingredients when available.