



COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY

Good architecture has always been sustainable. Bramske Studio Architecture continues this centuries-old tradition of listening to the client, site, and context to deliver projects that reduce our reliance on fossil fuels, maximize our use of local resources, and minimize our footprint on the earth. There are two areas of focus:

CLIENT PROJECTS

Every project and client are unique. Additionally, design happens in stages—the elements listed below are standard design considerations in every project:

- SITE
 - Project takes advantage of solar access, wind patterns, and viewsheds.
 - Existing elements in landscape and neighboring properties are considered to be retained and respected.
 - Minimizing of moving soils and disturbing existing trees and plantings.
 - Resilience from wildfires, flooding, tsunamis, and landslides is a priority.
- STRUCTURE
 - Existing structures and infrastructure are respected and retained.
 - Locally available building systems and building practices are prioritized.
 - Water- and wildfire-resistant assemblies that can be maintained over the life of the building
 - Roof forms that allow for solar arrays for PV production, water catchment, and hot water heating.
- SPACES
 - Minimizing building footprint is the biggest way to save money and reduce materials
 - Creating flexible spaces that serve multiple uses
 - Creating spaces that connect to natural light and ventilation
 - Finishing spaces with natural and low VOC finishes
 - Recognizing sensory needs of occupants in design choices
- SYSTEMS
 - Eliminating the use of on-site fuel-burning and off-site fossil fuel-consuming resources

- Using smart electrical systems to control energy use and offer flexibility for occupants
- Minimizing water use through efficient fixtures
- Preferencing all-electric homes
- Supplementing HVAC systems with natural ventilation and resilient heating options

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

- Virtual meetings are always prioritized in order to keep site visits to a minimum.
- The City of Portland [“Sustainability at Work” Guidelines](#) in the operations of office space are followed, including:
 - Regular cleaning of office with environmentally-friendly chemicals
 - Reusable dishes and towels
 - Full LED lighting with dimming capabilities
 - Conveniently located recycle bins
 - Shower available for bike commuters

The practices mentioned above are not necessarily inclusive of all practices at Bramske Studio Architecture. However they do convey the level and breadth of sustainability practices used on a daily basis. Throughout time more elements and practices will be added to these lists as the business and the world evolve together.

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Daniel Bramske, owner