

LEADING THE WAY  
CHAPMAN CONSTRUCTION/  
DESIGN CEO JOHN HALL

**Chapman**  
Construction / Design



# The Green Lines

Garden city firms combine industry with sustainability. **BY DON SEIFFERT**

**Chapman Construction/Design** CEO John Hall's interest in environmentalism dates back more than thirty years, long before *sustainability* became an environmental buzzword. Hall's forward thinking construction management firm has become a leader on sustainable practices in that industry. Today, the firm applies those practices to more than two hundred commercial projects each year. Its Newton Highlands headquarters is one of just three Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum-certified buildings in the state, incorporating environmental design from the first floor's kitchen counters to the rooftop garden. The office generates much of its own power through rooftop solar panels, an accomplishment that can be monitored in real time on the company website ([chap-con.com](http://chap-con.com)).

While the past three years have been particularly tough on the construction industry, Hall has maintained the company's emphasis on environmentalism. "I was taking the recession time to invest in being a leader in sustainability," he said. "Everyone else was taking time just to survive."

That leadership is evident in Chapman's role as an approved provider of professional education programs to architects and LEED-accredited professionals, and its designation in 2011 as one of the five best architecture, engineering, and construction firms to work for by *Building Design+Construction* magazine. Last year, the firm also founded annual scholarships for Wentworth Institute of Technology students to encourage the study of sustainable construction and design.