



A rooftop garden at San Diego Miramar College's police station.

## S.D. Community College District Honored for Energy Conservation

The San Diego Community College District has been honored by the Green California Schools & Community Colleges for the district's extensive efforts at conserving energy. It was presented with the Green Community College Leadership Award in the category of Energy.

Data from the California Center for Sustainable Energy shows that the district is one of the top producers of renewable energy among all educational entities within San Diego Gas & Electric territory. To date, the district's solar installations have generated approximately 13.5 million kilowatt hours of electricity.

The district is on track to obtain a total of 43 LEED certifications, including 25 LEED Silver, 15 Gold, one Platinum, and two LEED Certified buildings since the Board of Trustees implemented its Green Building Policy in 2003.

The district utilizes photovoltaic systems, smart metering, thermal energy storage, rooftop gardens, and controlled irrigation, among other efforts, to lessen its environmental footprint. Green roofs are an increasingly popular strategy for mitigating urban heat islands, and the district has installed or plans to install green roofs at several projects, as well as smart metering systems districtwide.