

BUSINESS

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RECYCLING

Cowboys Stadium 5th Greenest Stadium in U.S. (Top Ten List)

Zachary Shahan - February 6, 2011

Ranking U.S. stadiums according to “the depth and breadth” of their green initiatives, national home solar company [SunRun](#) recently came up with a top 10 list of the greenest stadiums. Cowboys Stadium, where the Super Bowl is about to be played, came in at number 5. From the planning stages, when the Dallas Cowboys intended to have the [first stadium](#) “to gain recognition in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) [National Environmental Performance Track Program](#),” the team has been committed to making [Cowboys Stadium a green leader](#).

Cowboys Stadium includes a state-of-the-art [bio-composting reactor from Totally Green](#), a retractable roof that allows a lot of events to be held in natural lighting, retractable end zone doors that allow for natural ventilation, permeable pavement that helps with water drainage and pollution, a comprehensive recycling program, and more. Overall, it has reduced solid waste, energy use, and water consumption considerably due to its green initiatives.

Here’s the full list of the 10 greenest stadiums in the U.S., courtesy SunRun, with the soccer teams(!) and photos added:

1. **Qwest Field, Home of the Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Sounders, and Seattle Mariners** – The stadium has installed solar panels to help the building offset double-digit percentage increases in electric rates.

2. **Lincoln Financial Field, Home of The Philadelphia Eagles and the Philadelphia Union** – In 2008, the Eagles produced 97 percent of their energy through renewable sources. The team also calculates their travel emissions and plants trees to offset their carbon footprint.

3. **STAPLES Center, Home of the LA Lakers** – Was awarded ISO 14001 Certification in 2010 for the third-party review of its Environmental Management System (EMS), making it the first U.S. arena to receive the respected accreditation.

4. **Nationals Stadium, home of The Washington Nationals** – The stadium is building LEED certification and has an in-house recycling center.

5. **Cowboys Stadium, Home of the Dallas Cowboys** – The \$650 million stadium is aiming to reduce solid waste by 25%, energy use by 20% and water consumption by 1 million gallons annually.

6. **Qualcomm Stadium, Home of the San Diego Chargers** – The stadium boasts 350 ninety-four gallon recycling bins in the tailgating area.

7. **Gillette Stadium, Home of the New England Patriots and New England Revolution**– Recycling bags are handed out at the parking lot and solar-powered compactors collect plastic bottles and cans around the stadium.

8. **Meadowlands Stadium, Shared by the New York Giants and Jets** –The seats are made from recycled plastic and the Environmental Protection Agency consulted on the construction of the stadium.

9. **Progressive Field, Home of The Cleveland Indians** – The stadium uses recycled paper and cornstarch cups in their concession stands.

10. **The Future Home of the San Francisco 49ers** – Still in its planning stages, the new stadium is slated to open in 2014 and will have solar panels and a green roof, recycled water, and a plan that would have almost a fourth of all fans arriving via public transport.

Also, in case you didn't know, it's good to know that there is actually a [Super Bowl XVL Environmental Program](#) to try to make this huge national sports event as green as possible. It includes a Climate Change Initiative, powering the host stadium with Renewable Energy Credits (RECs), a comprehensive recycling and reuse program, biodiesel buses, a [Touchdown For Trees](#) program to promote urban forestry and plant a ton of trees, and more.

Of course, major sporting events are energy-intensive and can generate a lot of waste, but good to see a lot of the leaders in this 'arena' taking the environmental crisis we're facing seriously and going green (or starting to).

Photo Credits: [bobbyh_80](#); [ArtBrom](#); [Christopher Chan](#); [Steve Carlton](#); [alvarogalve](#); [Imagine24](#)



Tagged Cleveland, Cleveland Indians, cowboys stadium, Dallas Cowboys, Environment, footbal, football, Gillette Stadium, Green, green stadiums, LA, LA Lakers, Lakers, Lincoln Financial Field, Los Angeles, Meadowlands, Meadowlands Stadium, Nationals Stadium, New England, New England Patriots, New England Revolution, New York, New York Giants, New York Jets, Philadelphia, Philadelphia Eagles, Philadelphia Union, Progressive Field, Qualcomm Stadium, Qwest Field, San Diego, San Diego Chargers, San Francisco, San Francisco 49ers, Seattle, Seattle Mariners, Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Sounders, solar, sports, stadiums, Staples Center, SunRun, super bowl, Super Bowl XVL, Super Bowl XVL Environmental Program, Texas, top green stadiums, Touchdown for Trees, U.S. stadiums, Washington Nationals

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6 COMMENTS

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February 23, 2012 at 1:30 pm

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[...] in the United States. Recently SunRun, a national home solar installation service ranked the Dallas Cowboys stadium as number five on the list of greenest stadiums in the United States. This is the first stadium to [...]

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February 5, 2012 at 7:38 am

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[...] (aka Super Bowl XLVI) host committee and the Indianapolis community are looking to improve on the greening of the Cowboys stadium and Super Bowl XLV. Check out its various green initiatives below, and don't forget to participate in some [...]

Broad Street Hooligans

February 7, 2011 at 10:17 am

REPLY

The Union don't play in Lincoln Financial anymore. They only played the beginning of their first season there because PPL Park their actual stadium was not completed in time for the season.

**Zachary Shahan**

February 8, 2011 at 12:20 am

REPLY

...a, good to know. Making the correction.

Tweets that mention Cowboys Stadium 5th Greenest Stadium in U.S. (Top Ten List) - Planetsave.com: climate change and environmental news -- Topsy.com

February 6, 2011 at 2:51 pm

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[...] This post was mentioned on Twitter by LEAP-VA, Emily Smith. Emily Smith said: Cowboys Stadium 5th Greenest Stadium in US (Top Ten List): Cowboys Stadium, where the Super Bowl is about to be ...

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February 6, 2011 at 8:19 am

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[...] This post was mentioned on Twitter by Mike Stewart, psave, Sunny Graham, WADE HUTCHERSON, siclistsecrets and others. siclistsecrets said: Super Bowl Being Played in 5th Greenest Stadium in US (Top Ten List)

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