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# GREEN CONVERSION



*The Town of Glastonbury*



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## INTRODUCTION

**P**reservation of commercial buildings is “going green.” By reusing the exterior and heavy timbers of buildings, the amount of material that is sent to the landfill is greatly reduced, as is the environmental impact of air pollution created during demolition.

## “ADAPTIVE REUSE” PRESERVES GLASTONBURY BUILDINGS

Adaptive reuse is the process of transforming out-of-date structures to new purposes while retaining the architectural features that make the structure



Formerly used for textile manufacturing, Addison Mill has become a desirable residential facility.



unique. When the original use of a structure changes, needs modernization or is no longer desired, designers and architects have an opportunity to change the primary function of the structure and retain the architectural features that make the structure unique.

Adaptive reuse is in keeping with the “smart growth concept” (preservation and restoration rather than demolition). It is often more efficient and environmentally responsible to salvage the existing masonry and heavy timbers in historic buildings than to destroy or replace these architectural features with new building materials.

Mill factories, such as The Soap Factory and Addison Mill (textile manufacturing), are excellent examples of structures that are especially adaptable to residential conversions as apartment complexes. It is hard to imagine that the Chabad Jewish Center was once a grocery store and that the Word Fellowship Church was a lumberyard.



Left to right: Word Fellowship Church, The Soap Factory condominiums and Chabad Jewish Center



For more than twenty-five years, the Town of Glastonbury has embraced the concept of adaptive reuse. The 2007-2017 Plan of Conservation and Development continues to recognize the preservation and reuse of architectural themes, stone bridges, granite buildings, and accessory structures as important elements of the Town's heritage.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information about adaptive reuse is available from Wikipedia at:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive\\_reuse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive_reuse)

## GLASTONBURY'S GREEN INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Glastonbury's Green Initiatives program operates under the direction of the Town Manager. The committee is chaired by the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Sanitation. Committee members from across Town departments participate and contribute ideas and suggestions committed to a "greener" community.

The committee assembles information about products and services and makes the information available to specific departments that can evaluate them and develop applications in Town projects with the approval of the Town Manager.

These "Go-Green" bulletins contain information about the results of product evaluations and other accomplishments of Town departments. We hope this information can provide you insight to the Town's green initiatives and also lead others in the community to find ways to use environmentally preferable products. Please contact us if we can help you with further information or if you have additional suggestions. ■

