

# *Western States Roof Systems, Inc.*

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## **Making the Case for Cool Roofs**

A cool roof can reduce energy costs, extend the life of a roof and increase interior comfort, all while helping the environment.

When students at Bemis Elementary School in Rialto, California learned that light colors better reflect the heat of the sun, teacher Jeff Saks and his students presented their project to the Rialto Unified School Board and requested that the school's roof be painted white to keep the building cool during the hot summer months. The board agreed and the school used a basic white roof coating on its dark roof. In the first year, the school saved 229,159 kWh and over \$ 38,000.00 through this and other energy saving programs.

As Bemis Elementary School's experience shows, a **"cool"** roof can significantly lower energy costs and improve building performance. Roofing manufacturers now make a variety of products designed to be cool. These products more effectively reflect the sun's radiation and emit heat back to the sky rather than transferring it to the building below. This makes the building cooler, increasing interior comfort and reducing the need for air conditioning. The result is a roof that saves energy, reduces electric bills and tends to last longer, decreasing roof maintenance.

If you would like to learn more about roof coatings and how to comply with California's Title 24 requirements, give us a call at **(800) 805-ROOF**. We would be happy to provide you with the information you need to help you with your roofing needs.