ECS Websites

Western Regional Climate Center
http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/climsum.html
Western U.S. Climate Historical Summaries. Follow links in this site to climate summaries for large western cities and detailed climate data for western states.

Western Cities Climate Summaries
http://www.wrcc.dri.edu/summary/lcd.html
Local Climate Data Summaries for large cities in the western U.S.

National Weather Service
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
This site provides real-time weather service for the US. Click on southern California to get current weather for San Luis Obispo and five-day weather forecasts.

Ecological Design Resources
http://www.ecodesignresources.net/
This site, created by Professor Mark DeKay, has lots of useful information for climate responsive design, including useful climate data links.

Climate Design Resources, UC Berkeley
http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENVI/climate.html
This site provides links to climate data as well as climate-responsive and "green architecture" design resources.

NRCS Wind Rose Data
http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/climate/windrose.html
This site from the Natural Resources Conservation Service provides wind roses for many cities in the US.

Wind Rose Plotter
http://www.windpower.org/en/tour/wres/roseplot.htm
Follow this link to the Danish Wind Association's site where you can input your data to plot a wind rose.

Wind Energy Resource Atlas
http://rredc.nrel.gov/wind/pubs/atlas/
This atlas estimates wind energy resource for the United States and its territories and indicates general areas where a high wind resource may exist.

Society of Building Science Educators (SBSE)
http://www.sbse.org
Here's where you can get a sun angle calculator and find information about the building sciences community nationally and internationally.

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy
http://www.eere.energy.gov/
This is the US Department of Energy's site for renewable energy technology.

Energy Design Resources
http://www.energydesignresources.com/index.php
This organization, sponsored by a number of California Utilities, provides useful information on resourceful design.

US DOE EERE Buildings Database
http://www.eere.energy.gov/buildings/database/
The High Performance Buildings Database is research sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy that seeks to improve building performance measuring methods by collecting data on various factors that affect a building's performance, such as energy, materials, and land use.

National Renewable Energy Laboratory
http://www.nrel.gov/
NREL, located in Golden, Colrado, is operated by the US Department of Energy. This site provides links to the NREL's many research programs, including the Solar Decathlon.

Case Studies from the California Integrated Waste Management Board
http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/GreenBuilding/CaseStudies/
Here are links to a number of "Green Building" case studies in California and around the country.

US Green Building Council
http://www.usgbc.org/
Here's where you can find information about LEED, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. There are also a number of "Green Building" case studies here.

AIA/COTE Top Ten Green Projects
www.aiatopten.org/
Award winning projects from the AIA.

Building Green
www.buildinggreen.com/hpb/
High performance buildings case studies.

USGBC Cascadia Council
http://casestudies.cascadiagbc.org/
In depth case studies of high performance buildings

Building for Sustainability Report
http://www.bnim.com/fmi/xsl/research/packard/index.xsl
Commissioned by the Packard Foundation, this site provides a summary of a report documenting a study to assess the cost and value of a new headquarters building for the Packard Foundation in Los Altos, California, designed at 4 LEED levels, compared against a "market" and a "living" building. You can download the full report, the "matrix", and a very useful "resources" document.

Lighting: Virtual Lighting Simulator
http://gaia.lbl.gov/vls/
Lawrence Berkeley Labs.

Daylight Design Variations Book
http://sts.bwk.tue.nl/daylight/varbook/index.htm
The Daylight Design Variations Book is a project that will be developed into a full blown tool for designing daylight openings (windows, rooflights, sheds, etc). The objective is to show a large number of daylight openings and their impact on a space.

Lighting: Tips for Daylighting
http://windows.lbl.gov/pub/designguide/designguide.html
These guidelines provide an integrated approach to the cost-effective design of perimeter zones in new commercial buildings. They function as a quick reference for designers through a set of easy steps and rules-of-thumb, emphasizing "how-to" practical details.

Lighting: Lumen Micro
http://www.lighting-technologies.com/Products/LumenMicro/LM.htm
Software for rendering digital models.

Lighting: Autodesk VIZ
http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/index?siteID=123112&id=4221521
Rendering software for digital models.