

Sustainable Residential Development

**Although consumer awareness and concern over the environment is growing, knowledge of energy-efficient construction and its environmental benefits is not widespread. Therefore, it is often the energy-efficient builder's responsibility to educate consumers to increase market demand.*

We spend 90% of our lives in buildings that protect us from the extremes of nature like cold, heat, wind, rain, bugs, and snow. However, our buildings use enormous amounts of energy, water, and materials throughout their entire lifecycle. They also create a large amount of waste and have a profound effect on the ecosystem that surrounds them as well as on the people who occupy them

In this country, alone, we build more than a million new homes per year. Building those homes uses up a lot of everything from lumber to steel to a wide range of building products derived from petroleum, such as paints, plastics, floor and wall coverings, and lots of other things. And all those houses require a lot of energy to keep them warm in winter and cool in summer.¹

What does that mean, not sustainable? It means, in short, that we are using up natural resources faster than they can be replaced, and that some of the ways we use those resources not only damage our environment, but actually make us sick. Many health problems today stem from, or are aggravated by poor indoor air quality and exposure to toxic substances contained in commonly used building products. Green building practices can eliminate these health damaging conditions.

Where will all that energy and all those materials come from? If the earth has a finite amount of natural resources, which clearly it does, and each year we keep using up those resources faster than we did the year before, which we certainly are doing, that is not something that can be sustained indefinitely. We must find ways to use our planet's natural resources more sparingly. We must stop poisoning our air, our water, and ourselves. That is the goal of green building.²

The economic, health and environmental impact of our buildings is apparent in our society. To meet the challenges of our built environment, a new way of designing and constructing building has evolved. It's called green building and its purpose is to help make buildings and the communities they make up become more livable, sustainable, resource efficient and healthier.

If you are interested in building a "green/sustainable" home please contact us. We would be happy to help you from the pre-construction phase to the final product. It is our goal to provide the most cost effective and feasible plan to help you live in a place that protects you.....and the environment.

¹ USGBC 2007

² USGBC 2007