

WHAT DOES GREEN BUILDING MEAN? HOW DOES IT HELP ME AS A HOMEOWNER?

Put Simply, Green Homes:

- Are energy efficient
- Use fresh water efficiently
- Have good indoor air quality
- Are designed with respect for their natural surroundings to reduce harmful impacts
- Reduce waste and energy
- Tend to have higher resale values
- Are often LEED certified

Carter Construction Company is one of North Central Florida's premier ICF, green builders. As a green builder, we believe our responsibility is to the environment as well as the home owner. The following are some of the ways we build green:

- Energy efficient building products
- Recycled construction materials
- Lifetime construction materials
- Solar lighting
- Utilizing natural light to reduce energy expenses
- Photosensors
- High efficiency mechanical systems
- "Smart" heating and cooling zone systems

BENEFITS EXPLAINED



LOT DESIGN, PREPARATION, AND DEVELOPMENT

Resource-efficient site design and development practices help reduce the environmental impacts and improve the energy performance of new housing



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

On average, a home built between 1990 and 2001 consumed about 12,800 kWh per year for space and water heating, cooling, lights and appliances. Where natural gas is used, consumption averages 69,000 cubic feet per household annually. Total energy costs for these homeowners during a year is about \$1,600. Energy improvements that make a home 20% more efficient could significantly reduce annual utility expenses.



WATER EFFICIENCY

Green homes conserve water both indoors and out. Efficient water delivery systems indoors along with native and drought resistant landscaping choices

can help prevent unnecessary waste of valuable water resources.



INDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

An increase in reported allergies and respiratory ailments and the use of chemicals that can off-gas from building materials have contributed to a heightened awareness of the air we breathe inside our homes



OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, & HOMEOWNER EDUCATION

Improper or inadequate maintenance can defeat the designer's and builder's best efforts to create a resource efficient home. By providing homeowner's with information regarding proper operation and maintenance procedures, a builder can help assure that the green home that was so carefully built will also be operated in an environmentally responsible manner.



GLOBAL IMPACT

Selection of paints is one issue that falls into the category of global impact. Selecting low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) helps prevent the release of VOC's from wet paint that form ground-level ozone pollution.



TAX CREDITS AND ENERGY EFFICIENT MORTGAGES

Visit <http://www.energytaxincentives.org/> and <http://www.energy.gov/taxbreaks.htm> for detailed information on available tax credits/incentives. For information on energy efficient mortgages, visit the Energy Star website.

Guiding Principles Addressed in Green Home Building (text taken from <http://www.nahbrc.org/greenguidelines>)