



## ARE THEY GREEN?

Green building is second nature at PLACE, so it was a priority for us to design our houses using the latest in sustainable strategies and package them with quality materials that conserve resources and promote occupants' health. The green designs of PLACE Houses, coupled with their low maintenance materials and systems mean you'll save time and money for more interesting pursuits than house maintenance and bill paying.

What do we mean by "green"?

Building green is responsible to the environment, responsible to our communities, and responsible to the health of the people who live and work in those buildings. Increasing the efficiency with which buildings manage energy, water, and Materials while mitigating the impact of construction, maintenance, and operation of a building through its life cycle is considered "green." All PLACE Houses are built to the standards of Built Green®.

What are some specific "green" features?

Beyond the green strategies employed in the design and construction of PLACE Houses to limit the embodied energy necessary to their creation, there are features which you can point to specifically:

- PLACE Houses are wired to be "solar ready" both for Solar Electricity and Solar Domestic Hot Water heating. (conduits installed in every house)
- PLACE Houses minimize energy required for water heating with a Drainwater Heat Recovery system (copper coils around waste pipes to draw out heat) coupled with a Tankless Water Heater.
- PLACE Houses are equipped with Energy Star rated appliances.
- PLACE Houses contain finish materials such as bamboo and cork that are rapidly renewable, as well as materials that are non-toxic & low in volatile organic compounds.
- PLACE Houses are equipped with low-flow plumbing fixtures which conserve water.
- PLACE Houses utilize elements of Low Impact Development; managing storm water on-site.
- PLACE Houses are designed for natural ventilation and maximum daylight penetration. Natural ventilation limits the need for costly ductwork which can accumulate contaminants as well as the need for mechanical cooling.
- PLACE Houses have hydronic radiant heating throughout, providing energy efficiency and uniform warmth where you feel it most. Hydronic radiant heating also improves indoor air quality.
- PLACE Houses are designed with a superior performing envelope of high-performance glazing and insulation.
- PLACE Houses exteriors are clad with long-lasting, low maintenance cement fiber board and when available, reclaimed and refinished wood siding.
- PLACE Houses utilize structural insulated panels in lieu of traditional "stick framing." This process reduces lumber waste by up to 50% in construction and provides tight construction which eliminates drafts and unwanted air leakage.

How can I make my PLACE House SUPER "green?"

You are a pioneer. You want cutting edge green technology and you want to be the first in the neighborhood to do it. Bravo! Here is a list of Super "green" upgrades for you to choose from:

- Install a Photovoltaic array on the roof of your "solar ready" PLACE house.
- Install a Solar Domestic Hot Water system on the roof of your "solar ready" PLACE House.
- Install a living eco-roof on your PLACE House.
- Upgrade your windows to an even higher performing glazing system.
- Capture rainwater for reuse in irrigation systems & the garden hose; where soil conditions allow, infiltrate back into the groundwater rather than the storm drain.
- Install sun shades and/or other passive solar devices.

What else do PLACE Houses do to protect the environment?

Because of PLACE's commitment to the environment, we want to go the extra mile to offset the adverse impacts of our industry on global climate change. Therefore, each new PLACE House comes with a set of corresponding "Green Tags" for one year. The "Green Tags" are purchased in YOUR name through the Green-E certified, Bonneville Environmental Foundation. These Green Tags support the creation of renewable energy projects such as wind and solar farms to offset the carbon emissions created by fossil fuel energy production. In addition to the carbon emissions produced by your home, we've calculated the carbon emissions of transporting select PLACE House materials from overseas and have included those emissions in the Green Tags as well. Therefore, your PLACE House will be designated "carbon neutral" for one year! To learn more about Green Tags and Green-E certification, visit the Bonneville Environmental Foundation's website at <http://www.b-e-f.org/GreenTags>.

Other Links for your information:

<http://www.green-e.org>

<http://www.builtgreen.net>