

# Building it Green

## Site

Effective planning and management of the site can conserve resources during construction. Protect the watershed through preservation of existing natural features including vegetation and through storm water control. Optimize passive solar opportunities through proper building siting and orientation.

## Foundation/Passive Solar Opportunities

By insulating the foundation and incorporating flyash into the concrete, the homeowner can have a stronger, more energy-efficient home.

## Structural Frame

Building with sustainably harvested lumber, engineered wood products, and recycled content materials greatly reduces the amount of wood fiber and construction waste, and relieves pressure on natural resources.

## Exterior Finish

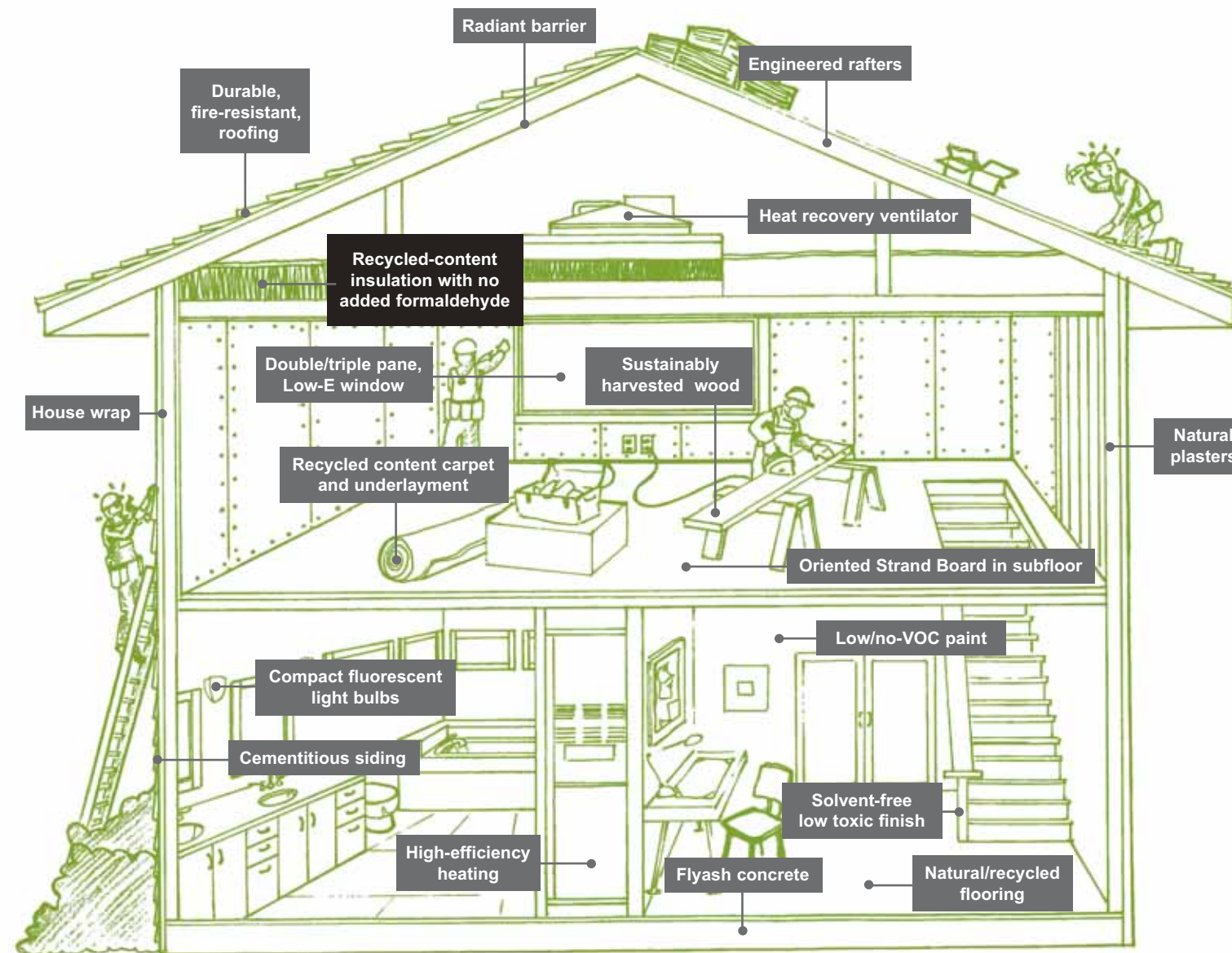
Decking and siding products made with recycled or fiber cement materials conserve resources, last longer, provide fire resistance and provide greater durability. The proper use of house wrap under the siding also protects the home by diverting water from the wall cavity.

## Plumbing and Electrical

The use of efficient toilets, faucets, light bulbs, ceiling fans and other fixtures saves water, electricity, and money.

## Appliances

Energy Star dishwashers, refrigerators, water heaters, and clothes washers (or a clothesline) equipped with water conservation features will lower energy and water bills. A built-in recycling center can also make recycling effortless and convenient.



Graphic courtesy of Alameda County Waste Management Authority.  
Cover photo: ©Vance Fox Photography, Architect: Dennis Zirbel.

## Insulation, Windows, and Radiant Barrier

Energy-efficient windows and advanced insulation techniques will lower utility costs and create a more comfortable home.

## Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC)

A properly designed, installed, and tested energy-efficient heating and cooling system will save money, increase comfort, and improve indoor air quality.

## Roofing

Durable Class A roofing reduces replacement costs and the related impacts on landfills.

## Natural Heating, Cooling, and Lighting

Take advantage of natural design solutions for maximizing heating, cooling and daylighting opportunities through the use of passive solar design including the use of thermal mass for heating and cooling.

## Indoor Air Quality and Finishes

Using an air-to-air heat exchanger and low/no-VOC paints/finishes and materials with reduced formaldehyde improves the indoor air quality for installers and residents.

## Flooring

Beautiful, durable flooring options such as natural linoleum, bamboo, or recycled/reclaimed products are now available from many manufacturers. These materials have less impact on the environment and are healthier for the residents.

## Renewable Energy

The use of EPA Phase II or equivalent woodstoves promotes cleaner air while providing an alternative heating source. Solar water heating, photovoltaic (PV) and wind generating energy systems reduce or eliminate utility costs.

## Resources

- Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe, CATT  
www.ca-tt.com
- U.S. Green Building Council: www.usgbc.org
- Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System: www.leedbuilding.org
- Sustainable Buildings Industry Council (SBIC):  
www.sbicouncil.org
- Sierra Green Building Association: www.sigba.org
- Truckee Donner Public Utility District: www.tdpud.org
- Solar Living Institute: www.solarliving.org
- BuildingGreen.com: www.buildinggreen.com
- Smart Communities Network: www.sustainable.doe.gov



## Contact Us!

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# TRUCKEE BUILD IT GREEN



**Smart Solutions  
from the Ground Up.**

## What is Green Building?

Green Building is a whole systems approach to the design and construction of buildings and communities with the ultimate goal of meeting current needs while minimizing impacts to natural resources, other species and future generations. Effective environmental design and sustainable development are reflected in site planning, project design, choice of materials, construction techniques, energy efficiency, and water conservation, among other aspects.

### Save Money

Green Building products and construction practices can lower water and energy bills, reduce maintenance costs, and require less frequent replacement.

### Live More Comfortably

With good energy design, proper insulation, and efficient heating and cooling systems, Green Building helps to ensure that your home is more comfortable.

### Healthier Indoor Environment

Green Building encourages the use of materials, paints, and finishes that eliminate many sources of indoor air pollution.

### Less Maintenance and Higher Durability

Green Building guidelines go beyond your local building codes to recommend methods and premium materials that result in more durable homes that require less upkeep.

### Good for the Environment

Conventional building construction and operation needlessly consume large quantities of wood, water, fuel, and other materials. A green built home conserves these natural resources.

**Build smart.  
Build healthy.  
Invest in the future.**

**Build it Green!**