Green Building A guide for new-home buyers







"We are like tenant farmers chopping down the fence around our house for fuel when we should be using Nature's inexhaustible sources of energy—sun, wind, and tide. I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that." - Thomas Alva Edison (1931)



Green Building at CC Homes

"We should all be concerned about the future because we have to spend the rest of our lives there." - Charles F. Kettering, American Inventor



Since 2010, CC Homes has used suppliers and materials in their communities that meet or exceed Federal green-building standards. What this means is that all of our new homes incorporate building products and techniques that result in a healthier, more energyefficient, more environmentally responsible home. We are committed to building homes that use products and materials that are environmentally friendly, that decrease the impact on natural resources, and that use green-building guidelines to promote conservation efforts. Our greatest mission is to build communities where families can enjoy their homes, knowing they have been built with care and concern for future generations, as well as for the future of our environment.

Green building is not a one-time treatment or product. Instead, green building is a process that applies to buildings, their sites, their interiors, their operations, and the communities in which they are situated.

Green Building

The process of green building is ongoing as it flows throughout the entire life-cycle of a project, beginning at the inception of a project idea and continuing throughout the lives of the residents.

Reasons for Green Building

According to the Environmental Protection Agency¹, in the United States, buildings account for:

39 percent of total energy use12 percent of the total water consumption68 percent of total electricity consumption38 percent of the carbon dioxide emissions

All building processes have a vast impact on the natural environment, human health and the economy. By adopting green building strategies, we can minimize both economic and environmental impact. Green construction methods can be integrated into buildings at any stage, from design and construction, to renovation and deconstruction. However, the most significant benefits can be obtained if the design and construction are integrated into the earliest stages of the building process.

Potential benefits of green building can include:

Environmental Benefits

- Enhance and protect biodiversity and ecosystems
- Improve air and water quality
- Reduce waste
- Conserve and restore natural resources

Economic Benefits

- Reduce operating costs
- Create, expand, and shape markets for green product and services
- Optimize life-cycle economic performance

Social Benefits

- Enhance resident comfort and health
- Heighten aesthetic qualities
- Minimize strain on local infrastructure
- Improve overall quality of life

1 - epa.gov/greenbuilding/pubs/whybuild.htm

Green building is not a fad. Nor is it a newly discovered direction or a trendy diversion. Green building began when people started to realize that all resources are finite and that the ecosystems, which support life are fragile and vulnerable.

It's important to recognize that green building isn't an all or nothing proposition. Even modest measures can result in significant savings of money, improvements in the health of the residents and conservation of resources. traditional homes, but there's absolutely no difference in appearance. The difference lies in the way a green-built home performs! For example, one green-qualified home can keep 4,500 pounds of harmful gasses out of the air each year. In fact, the U.S. Department of Energy estimates that the existing greenbuilt, energy-efficient homes across America are already reducing air pollution by an astonishing 100 million metric tons every year.

A green-built home is more energy and water efficient.

Green homes are built a bit differently than

One of the leading reasons to build green is to make life healthier and more comfortable for the people who live there! Easy cleaning and maintenance are among the practical benefits of green building.

A green home is more cost effective to own and maintain, healthier for its occupants to live in and friendlier to the environment than a traditional home. This growing recognition led to efforts among builders and developers to approach the way they build homes differently. Homes with sustainable environments evolve with living systems, and contribute to the long-term renewal of resources and life. CC Homes Green Building Initiative was launched to take full advantage of the multiple benefits this superior approach to building has to offer. Green building's leading edge methods of using technology and green standards and techniques offer many benefits.

The many benefits of **Green Building**



Important Savings

Green-built homes conserve resources, use energy and water more efficiently, cost less to maintain and operate and, because of the ongoing savings, have higher resale values.

Healthier Homes

Green-built homes are healthier homes because the techniques and materials used to build them and the systems that sustain them provide improved air quality and a safer living space.



A Better Environment

Green-built homes help reduce atmospheric pollutants, use scarce resources more efficiently, take advantage of recycled products, manage waste responsibly and respect the integrity of their natural settings. In the sections of this guide, you'll find descriptions of many of the most popular green building materials, techniques and products.

How to use your Green Building Guide

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- For your convenience the
- descriptions that follow have
- been grouped under four gener-
- al categories: Air, Water, Energy and
- Construction. Because green building is a
- systems approach, many of the products and features
- discussed below provide multiple benefits; for example:
- energy efficiency and improved air quality.



The New England Journal of Medicine reports that 45% of America's children will develop respiratory disease – in part due to chemicals in their homes. The American College of Allergy estimates that 50% of all illness in this country is aggravated or caused by polluted indoor air.

The Environmental Protection Agency has found that air in new homes can be 10 times more polluted than outdoor air. In fact, they have identified illness caused by poor indoor air quality as the nation's leading environmental health problem.



Measures that can be taken to improve indoor air quality fall into three general categories – more effective air filtration and purification, moisture control and the detection and elimination of potentially harmful gasses.

The effectiveness of an air filter is measured by its ability to collect airborne pollutants and potential pathogens that are microscopic in size. The more pollutants that are removed, the less of them you breathe in. A filter's effectiveness in trapping smaller airborne particles is measured by the industry-standard Dust Spot Efficiency (DSE) rating. Its effectiveness in collecting larger particles is expressed as a filter's Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV).

In both cases, the higher the number, the better the filter. In order to provide a healthy interior, the most important element to control in Florida homes is humidity.

The poor quality of the air in many traditionally built homes is a major contributor to illness.

Air conditioning systems cool our homes and remove humidity, while filters act as a shield against pollutants.

More efficient filters also mean you spend less time dusting and cleaning!

Electrostatic Air Filter Why It's Green:

Reduces the incidence of larger airborne contam-inates throughout the home. These filters offer MERV scores of up to 12 and can provide a DSE up to 60%.



Potential reduction in medical expenses due to fewer airborne threats to health and possible increase in home resale value

These filters capture large allergens such as mold spores and pet dander, improving the air quality of your home

Green Label Carpet Selections

Why It's Green:

Certified Green Label carpet, padding and glues are test-proven to preserve indoor air quality by curbing emissions of harmful fumes, such as Volatile Organic Compounds.



Possible reduction in medical expense related to floors covered with high VOC carpets

Eliminates health concerns posed by high VOC soft floor coverings, **particularly to children, the elderly and people of all ages** who have lung diseases such as asthma.

Preserves quality of air through **very** low emission Volatile Organic Compounds

CC Homes uses: Lexmark Carpet

Why It's Green:

Lexmark is LEED certified, using low VOC carpet, padding and glues in their certification.



Possible reduction in medical expense related to floors covered with high VOC carpets

Eliminates health concerns posed by high VOC soft floor coverings particularly to children, the elderly and people of all ages who have lung diseases such as asthma



Preserves quality of air through low emission Volatile Organic Compounds

Carbon Monoxide Detector

Why It's Green:

Warns of the intrusion of potentially lethal carbon monoxide gas into the home.

Alerts residents to the presence of carbon monoxide in the home before levels become toxic.



Increases resale value of home

Helps prevent accidental death or serious illness

Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) Paint

Why It's Green:

Low VOC paints contribute to healthier indoor air because they do not emit volatile organic compounds found in standard paint.



Potentially reduced medical expenses due to fewer allergic reactions and respiratory ailments



Fewer illnesses likely, due to elimination of harmful fumes, which can trigger a variety of health problems, particularly for children, the elderly and people who have lung diseases such as asthma.



Reduced use of products containing volatile organic compounds helps curb the production and exhaust of ground level ozone, which is detrimental to our long-term global sustainability because of its harmful effects to ecosystems.

CC Homes uses: Sherwin Williams Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) Paint

Formulated with minimal amounts of volatile organic compounds, low VOC paints by Sherwin Williams provide the same durability and attractive colors as all other paints. Harmful fumes can continue to emit from standard paints for up to six years. Green building efforts that focus on water use in the home are intended to accomplish two things. First, to conserve the amount of water used in the home, since water is a particularly scarce and precious resource, especially here in Florida. Second, to improve the taste, purity and appearance of drinking water.

Water-Conserving Toilet

Why It's Green:

Properly used, a water conserving toilet can save up to 2,000 gallons of water each year.

Re-engineered low flow or power-assisted toilets can also provide water savings.



Savings on water bills



Preservation of scarce water resources

CC Homes Uses Kohler Toilets & Faucets

Why It's Green:

Reduces water flow with low flush toilets. Reduces shower flow while maintaining pressure.



Savings on water bills

Metal Hose Fittings -Connecting to Appliances

Why It's Green:

Why It's Green: Metal hose fittings replace traditional plastic fittings that have a finite life and are likely to eventually fail, possibly causing flooding and wasting water.



Potential savings on repairs, medical bills and water bills



Eliminate potential health risks caused by water leakage and mold formation

Preserve scarce supplies of potable water.

Water-Saving Washing Machines

Why It's Green:

Energy Star and horizontal axis washing machines can use up to 40% less water than ordinary clothes washers, which can amount to savings of up to 6,800 gallons per year depending on the model selected.

Models are available that automatically adjust the water level to the load size.



Save on water bills as well as energy to run the dryer since horizontal axis machines, due to their spin, also remove excess moisture, reducing drying time.



Preserve scarce supplies of potable water

Automatic Rain Sensor on Sprinkler System

Why It's Green:

Ultimately, the sensor reduces water waste, but also prevents water damage that can turn your lawn brown, as well as helps prevent potential disease or fungus to grow when lawns are watered while it rains.



Potential savings on replacing lawns, spraying pesticides for fungus and disease, medical bills and water bills.



Eliminate potential health risks caused by pesticide leakage into ground water.



Homes use energy in a number of ways – to cool and heat their interiors, run household appliances, heat water, provide lighting and combat infiltration of hot and humid air. Improving the energy performance of your home relies on treating the house as a functioning system.

Two key components of this system are the building envelope (the structure and materials that separate the living spaces within your home from the outdoors) and the mechanical systems such as the air conditioner.

Air Conditioning

Why It's Green:

High-efficiency air conditioners use less electricity. Air conditioner efficiency is rated based on the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating or SEER. As the SEER rating of the air conditioner increases, the energy efficiency of the air conditioner increases. Air conditioning units with fans allow units to operate at a low speed most of the time, saving energy and removing excess humidity from the air.

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High efficiency air conditioners result in lower electric bills.

Helps reduce mold formation due to excess humidity, helping to reduce respiratory problems.

Reduces the amount of pollution-causing fossil fuels used to create energy.

Energy Star Washers and Dryers

Why It's Green:

Why It's Green: Innovative washer designs can result in energy savings of up to 47%. Washers that electronically set dryers for best and most efficient drying time result in further energy savings.



Reduces energy expense

Reduces the amount of pollution-causing fossil fuels used to create energy

Energy Efficient Hot Water Heater

Why It's Green:

Heating water accounts for approximately 15 percent of a home's energy use. High efficiency water heaters use 10 to 50 percent less energy than standard models.

Cold water passes through a series of heated coils providing instant hot water, and in these energy efficient units, a large insulated tank of hot water is constantly maintained, meeting compliance of 2015 National Appliance Energy Conservation Act **(NAECA)**.



Reduces energy expense

Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy.

New NAECA regulations require all hot water heaters to heat more efficiently

Energy Star Dishwashers

Why It's Green:

Energy Star dishwashers are units that go beyond the federal standards for energy efficiency by 20% or more. Through EPA testing, these units have been proven to contribute significant energy savings, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and offer savings on energy bills without sacrificing performance, features, and comfort.



Reduces energy expense.

Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy.

Energy-Efficient Appliances

Why It's Green:

Energy Star dishwashers are just one example of the many Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rated Energy Star appliances. Refrigerators, ovens, ranges, microwaves and ceiling fans also use less energy than standard appliances and must exceed federal standards for energy efficiency by at least 20%



Reduce energy expense

Reduce the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy

CC Homes uses Whirlpool Appliances

Why It's Green:

Why It's Green: Innovative washer designs can result in energy savings of up to 47%. Washers that electronically set dryers for best and most efficient drying time result in further energy savings.



Reduces energy expense

Reduces the amount of pollution-causing fossil fuels used to create energy

Wall Insulation

Why It's Green:

Standard concrete block construction with insulation increases the wall R value (insulating value) and reduces infiltration of heat and humidity from outside air. This makes it easier for homeowners to control the temperature of their homes. Efficient insulation also reduces the demand on air conditioning systems, allowing the units to operate at prime efficiency for the longest period of time.

Reduces energy expense and increases resale value of home

Improves indoor environmental quality

Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create electricity

High-Efficiency Insulated Doors

Why It's Green:

Insulated doors help control indoor air temperature allowing for improved energy efficiency. Insulation within doors also greatly increase impact resistance.



Reduce energy expense

Provide protection and minimize risk of property loss in the event of a hurricane/ tropical storm

Reduce the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy

High-Efficiency Impact Glass - Optional Upgrade

Why It's Green:

Windows made of high efficiency impact glass improve energy efficiency and are extremely resistant to damage



Provides a significant added measure of resident protection

Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy

Mastic-Sealed Ductwork

Why It's Green:

Sealing duct joints with mastic makes them airtight and prevents up to 20% loss of conditioned air, which can leak into your attic otherwise.

Mastic is painted in paste form over the joints in air conditioning ducts and hardens to form an airtight seal. Traditional construction uses duct tape only, which quickly becomes ineffective and results in leaks as the adhesive dries out.

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Reduces energy expense

Mastic-sealed ducts prevent attic contaminants from entering the ductwork systems, in effect keeping them out of the conditioned



Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy.

Recessed Can Light

Why It's Green:

Compact recessed bulbs reduce energy consumption and heat



Reduces energy expense and lasts longer

Natural Lighting

Why It's Green:

Natural light solar tubes in laundry rooms, bathrooms, kitchens, garages or any other location where light is always needed save energy by reducing the amount of artificial light that must be generated in the home.



Reduces energy expense by reducing the demand for artificial lighting. Solar tubes unlike skylights, do not allow radiant heat to enter the home so they help keep energy bills low.



Natural light creates a more comfortable indoor environment (and has proven mental health benefits)



Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy

The proper use or application of various building materials and surface coverings or finishes can contribute significantly to the health of a home's occupants, a reduction in the demand for scarce resources, improvements in our fragile ecosystems or a combination of these and other benefits.



Hard Wood and Tile Flooring

Why It's Green:

Hard flooring contributes to a healthier indoor environment because it is easy to clean and, unlike carpet, hard floors do not collect mold, dust mites and other potential allergens.

A baby crawling on ordinary carpeting inhales the equivalent of three cigarettes a day as a result of the gasses emitted from the carpet, adhesives and padding as well as from the molds, mildews, fungi, dust mites and other contaminants that become trapped in the carpet over time.



Potentially reduced medical expenses due to fewer allergic reactions and respiratory ailments.

Fewer illnesses likely due to elimination of fumes, which can trigger a variety of health problems, particularly for children, the elderly and people who have lung diseases such as asthma.

CC Homes uses: Daltile – Certified Lead-Free & Locally Produced Tile

Why It's Green:

Lead content is added to many tiles produced in China and other countries, while Daltile's locally produced tile does not contain any traces of it.



Prevents exposure to toxic lead. Eliminates exposure to toddlers who crawl on tile flooring.



Conserves scarce resources by limiting the geographic travel distance needed for delivery, reducing fuel consumption.

Reduced Noise Bath Fans

Why It's Green:

Improve indoor environmental air quality by removing excess moisture.

Quiet operation encourages use. Timers ensure that the fans run long enough to exhaust moisture and then shut off automatically without putting the house under negative pressure, which encourages outdoor moisture intrusion and wastes energy.



Potentially fewer medical expenses related to respiratory ailments

Fewer respiratory and allergic problems likely, due to reduction in mold and mildew

Low Maintenance Coatings on Toilets and Sinks

Why It's Green:

High gloss ionized coatings on toilets and sinks keep surfaces cleaner and reduce the need for strong cleaning agents that can pose health hazards.



Savings on cleaning supplies and possible reduction in medical expenses due to illness caused by strong cleaning agents.



More hygienic surfaces, fewer illnesses related to strong cleaning products.

Concrete Roof

Why It's Green:

Concrete roofs cost less in the long term, because they are more durable and sustainable than popular alternatives. They are also better suited to areas with heavy rain, because of the weather-tight arrangement of interlocking concrete tiles.



Roof tiles have been used for hundreds of years and concrete tiles have been widely considered one of the most energy-efficient choices.



Manufactured to reflect the sun's heat, concrete tiles lower energy costs and increase indoor comfort.

Stucco

Why It's Green:

Made from natural ingredients, stucco siding has been utilized for hundreds of years because it is easy to maintain, aesthetically pleasing and allows for a variety of paint colors and application styles. It also offers a high degree of energy efficiency.



Resistant to fire and able to expand and contract with the weather and seasonal changes.

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When painted in light colors, stucco provides solar radiation control, which effectively decreases the energy needed for cooling.

CC Homes uses: Entegra & Boral Roof Tile

Why It's Green:

Concrete roof tiles are made with simple, recyclable materials. The ingredients in concrete tile are natural: sand, cement, water, pigments for color and water-based sealers – that's it! Water generated during production of these tiles is recycled back into the manufacturing process. State-of-the-art curing chambers and insulation also reduce the energy needed to cure the tiles.

S and barrel-type profiles of tile provide an insulated air gap between the underside of the tile and the roof deck below. Most of the heat that is not reflected or emitted will escape through this gap, reducing the amount of heat transferred to the roof and into your home.



Reduces energy expense and increases resale value of home

Improves indoor environmental quality by keeping homes cooler. Helps reduce mold formation due to excess humidity, helping to reduce respiratory problems.



Reduces the use of pollution-causing fossil fuels to create energy

Wood-free Architectural Trims

Why It's Green:

Will not rot and need replacement, therefore preventing excess cultivation of trees.



Less expensive and saves money.

Prevents exposure to mold that grows on exterior wood products.

What follows are a number of examples that illustrate

Green Building

applications in outdoor environments.

Some of them have been incorporated into the community; others are recommendations for homeowners to commit to the green initiative at their personal residence. Depending upon the feature, qualified professionals in the related fields can assist you in attaining a yard or garden that's Florida Yards and Neighborhood certified.

Butterfly Garden

Butterfly species have seen a dramatic decrease in their numbers in recent years. By planting native plants that provide both nectar and suitable host sites for offspring, home owners can directly have a positive effect on butterfly species conservation in their own back yard while saving water and reducing maintenance at the same time.

Why It's Green:

Plants and flowers that attract butterflies create a natural wildlife habitat for ecologically important pollinators such as birds and bees. These native plants also conserve water, especially when replacing grass areas.

Location of Appropriate Plants, Trees and Flowers

Why It's Green:

Native Florida species are drought-resistant and well suited to this soil and climate. They help preserve a natural balance within the ecosystem by providing food and habitat for native animal species. Exotic or invasive species often require more water than native species and have the potential to damage local ecosystems by displacing native flora and fauna. Foreign species place inordinate demands on scarce water supplies.

Edible Landscape

Why It's Green:

Home gardening of herbs and fruit trees can be organic, therefore requiring less fertilizer and pesticide use. In addition, the resulting homegrown products reduce the need for transported goods, which contribute to pollution and energy consumption.

Recirculating Fountain

Why It's Green:

Fountains that re-circulate a fixed volume of water serve as birdbaths and drinking fountains for wildlife while conserving supplies of potable water.

Permeable Concrete Pavers

Why It's Green:

Concrete brick pavers are made with natural materials, and permit rainwater to enter the ground around the pavers and replenish the aquifer. Unlike a solid concrete pour, pavers allow space for rain runoff.

GREEN-BUILT GARDEN

Green Built Gardens

As you plan your yard, there are a multitude of possible landscaping, planting, gardening, outdoor furnishing and decorative options you may wish to pursue.

As you explore your options with builders, landscape architects, gardeners and nurseries, you may wish to keep the following nine Florida Yards and Neighborhood principles in mind.

Plant Appropriately

Put the right plants in the right places. Select both the appropriate size and species of plants for the conditions in your yard.

Water Efficiently

Install a sprinkler system properly placed and calibrated so that it is water efficient.

Mulch

Use mulch as frequently as necessary to retain moisture.

Recycle Yard Waste

Make certain to recycle your yard waste. You can create rich fertilizer for your garden by composting organic plant material with dry materials such as leaves and newspapers.

Fertilize with Care

Use only ecologically appropriate fertilizers and use them only when they are necessary.

Avoid Pesticides When Possible

Use natural remedies to reduce yard pests and avoid pesticides unless they're absolutely necessary. If needed, choose pesticide products that are health safe and environmentally friendly.

Control the Amount and Quality of Storm Water Runoff

Employ the best topographic and mechanical means of reducing storm water runoff and improve the water quality of the remaining runoff through the limited use of fertilizers and pesticides.

Promote Wildlife Habitat

Make your yard and garden as attractive to native wildlife as possible through naturally indigenous plantings.

Protect nearby Water Sources

Protect the quality of nearby water sources through the use of native vegetation and plantings common to tidal areas.

Compared to traditional yards, those that are Florida Yards and Neighborhood (FYN) certified: Use less water • Reduce horticultural waste and storm water runoff • Require less maintenance and fewer pesticides • Actively promote desirable wildlife habitats.

GLOSSARY

Building Envelope/Shell – All floor, wall and ceiling materials separating interior conditioned living space from the outdoors.

Certified Sustainable Wood – Wood that originated in forests where sustainable growth is practiced and certified.

CMU - Concrete Masonry Unit - the standard construction material for the exterior walls. Often referred to as concrete blocks.

Dehumidification - Removal of moisture from the air.

Drought-Tolerant Vegetation – Plantings that will survive (but not necessarily thrive) on minimal water.

Dust Spot Efficiency (DSE) – The rating given to air filters that ranks their ability to remove airborne particulates, that are 1 micron and larger, from the home. Reported as percentages, the higher the DSE, the better the filter.

Energy Use – The quantity of electricity, gas or other fuel required by the building equipment to satisfy the buildings heating, cooling and hot water requirements as well as lighting, refrigeration, cooking and other needs.

Energy Efficient Mortgage – Mortgages that permit increased home purchase borrowing based on Environmental Protection Agency standards of energy efficiency.

Energy Star – A program sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to promote more efficient use of energy through appliances that exceed federal standards for energy efficiency by at least 20%.

Energy Star[®] **Home** – A home that is certified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as being at least 30% more energy efficient than the minimum national standard for home energy efficiency established by the Council of American Building Official's Model Energy Code.

FGBC – Florida Green Building Coalition – a statewide, not-forprofit corporation, dedicated to promoting green building principles. The organization has developed a set of standards for certifying homes as "green" in the state of Florida.

Florida Yards and Neighborhoods – A program sponsored and administered by the University of Florida and the county extension agencies to promote eco-sensitive practices in Florida lawns and gardens.

Forest Stewardship Council – The agency that governs certified forests.

Home Energy Rating System (HERS) – A standardized system for rating the energy-efficiency of a home.

Indoor Environmental Quality – Characteristics of the interior home environment, including temperature, humidity, air quality, air movement and light.

Infiltration – Air and moisture that seeps into the home through inherent cracks and crevices in the building shell.

Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value (MERV) – A number from 1 to 16 that indicates an air filter's ability to capture particles between 3 and 10 microns in size.

NAECA-National Appliance Energy Conservation Act -- Enacted in 1975, NAECA creates uniform efficiency standards for certain household appliances, including refrigerators, dishwashers, clothes washers, clothes dryers and water heaters

Native Vegetation – Plantings found naturally in the environment where they are growing.

Passive Design – Home design that takes advantage of non-mechanical cooling features such as porches, overhangs, cross ventilation and window tinting.

Programmable Thermostat – A thermostat controlling heating, ventilation and air conditioning that allows for programmed settings that are timed and more accurate.

Radiant Barrier – A reflective barrier used in attics or walls to block heat gain in the home caused by sunlight.

Renewable Resource – Materials that are replenishable through natural growth cycles – sustainably harvested lumber, for example.

Sealed Building Envelope – A building envelope that has been sealed to prevent air and moisture infiltration leaks to maintain good interior environmental quality.

Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) – A measurement of cooling that air conditioners provide per dollar spent on electricity. The higher the SEER, the greater the cooling per electricity dollar spent.

Sick Building Syndrome – Structures with poor indoor environmental quality.

Tint - The coloration of window glass to reduce heat gain and visible light from sunshine.

USGBC - United States Green Building Council – a national organization dedicated to promoting green building principles nationally.

Xeriscape – Landscape practices that reduce water consumption and maintenance.

Learn More About Green Building

Energy Star: www.energystar.gov

Florida Green Building Coalition: www.floridagreenbuilding.org

Florida Solar Energy Center: www.fsec.ucf.edu

Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design:

www.usgbc.org/leed/leed_main.asp

National Association of Home Builders: www.nahb.org

Schroeder-Manatee Farms: www.smrfarms.com

SW Florida Water Management District: www.swfwmd.state.fl.us

University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences

- (IFAS) www.edis.ifas.ufl.edu

United States Green Building Council: www.usgbc.org

University of Florida Extension: ww.sarasota.extension.ufl.edu



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