

SIX EASY WAYS TO GREEN YOUR PROJECT

1. Include a Home Performance Evaluation in the design phase.
WHY: You receive an objective analysis of your home's performance prior to construction and recommendations to improve air quality, energy efficiency, and safety. You can also qualify for tax credits.
2. Use Marmoleum sheet flooring or other natural types of flooring in place of vinyl sheet flooring.
WHY: Vinyl chloride is thought to be connected with serious health problems such as cancer and damage to the nervous, circulatory and immune systems.
3. Purchase a toilet with the WaterSense logo (1.28 gal flush or Dual Flush).
WHY: high efficiency toilets can save approximately 4000 gallons per year (30% more with dual flush).
4. Treat code requirements for insulation in the design of your project as a bare minimum requirement. Aim for levels at least 50% or better.
WHY: Insulation and air sealing are the keys to energy savings, occupant comfort and general health of the building when installed properly.
5. Purchase cabinets, countertops, doors, shelving, and adhesives without added formaldehyde. Ask your supplier before you buy.
WHY: Formaldehyde is a potent eye, upper respiratory, and skin irritant.
6. When remodeling an old basement address water management techniques.
WHY: Moisture, when combined with drywall or wood is a main source for mold growth leading to unhealthy indoor air quality and premature product failure.

