

Green Living Begins at Home

Is Your Home an “Energy Guzzler?”

- Buildings account for half of all the energy consumed in the US; heating and cooling account for 50% of all home energy use.
- Duct leakage costs Americans \$5 billion each year, equivalent to the annual fuel consumption of 13 million cars.
- Air leakage and poor insulation waste 30% of household energy; monthly, we leak an average of \$450 through the holes and cracks in our homes.

A Home Performance Test can identify energy losses, locate health and safety concerns and point out possible remedies.

Is Your House Making You Sick?

- Many building materials emit dangerous chemicals like formaldehyde. Plywood, pressboard, solvents, paints, flooring and carpet can all be big culprits.
- Leaky ductwork can draw carbon monoxide and other exhaust down chimneys and vents into the house and pull dirty air in from crawl spaces and attics.
- Symptoms of poor indoor air quality include nose, throat and sinus irritation, respiratory problems, headaches, fatigue, dizziness and nausea.

Today's green building products have style, high quality, durability and are affordable; they are better for the environment and healthier for your family.

What is Green Design?

- Conventional design and construction wastes materials while creating less efficient, less durable, less healthy, higher maintenance buildings.
- Wasting endless amounts of fossil fuels and electricity is no longer the right choice for homeowners, increasing energy efficiency in the home is essential.
- Every house is a solar house; some are just badly designed. A green design considers the sun for heating, natural cooling and as an energy source.

Green design, building and remodeling conserve natural resources, increase energy efficiency, decrease maintenance, extend the life of your home, and reduce health risks to your family.

Are Greener Homes More Valuable?

- PITI (principal, interest, taxes, insurance) no longer adequately reflects a home's monthly operational costs; using PITI+EW acknowledges that energy & water costs vary.
- \$24,000 is the estimated increased home value for each \$100 reduction in monthly utility bills. As oil & natural gas become increasingly expensive, the value of energy efficient homes will soar.
- CO₂ emissions attributable to the home can be greatly reduced while simultaneously increasing the comfort of its occupants. Don't just inspect your next home, test it.

Green properties sell for higher prices. A home's energy efficiency, indoor air quality and resource conservation can be evaluated along with its location, size, style, quality, condition and utility.

Puzzled by Green?

Attend our FREE Home Improvement Workshop
“Putting the Green Pieces Together”

Wednesday, May 16th, 7 – 9 pm

ReNu, 42 Red Hill Ave, San Anselmo

for more info call: 415-462-0245

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