



## Green Initiatives

The idea of 'greening' your project may be important to you, or at the very least, interesting. But daunting...does sustainable construction also mean expensive construction? White Space has created a user-friendly guide to help you make those decisions, from choosing solutions that have very little cost impact to those that do.

Everyday environmental decisions (these may be currently well implemented by the general public)

1. Utilize siting and solar orientation to take advantage of nature
2. Include landscaping into the overall architecture, not as an afterthought
  - a. Include rain gardens that minimize run-off
  - b. Create a deciduous barrier on the South that allows more sunlight in winter months
  - c. Create a coniferous barrier on the North that shelters from the elements
  - d. Integrate rain barrels into home design
3. Minimize land impact by considering square footage and/or footprint
4. Create airflow with window placement – or replace inefficient windows/doors
5. Use energy efficient appliances and light fixtures
6. Include ceiling fans in most rooms
7. Design with engineered wood and FSC certified products
8. Use day lighting as much as possible and void over-lighting your space
9. Use compact fluorescent or halogen bulbs where possible and maximize dimmer switches
10. Utilize Advanced Framing Methods minimizing materials and labor
11. Purchase products locally to reduce CO2 emissions
12. Eliminate installation of garbage disposal
13. Salvage and donate building materials from demolition of existing space
14. Provide kitchen scrap compost bin and well-designed recycling space

Investing in the future of your home (and the environment)

1. Select open-cell pavers in lieu of pavement or asphalt driveways to alleviate run-off
2. Choose low VOC paints to reduce off-gassing
3. Choose recycled materials or materials that can be recycled
4. Install formaldehyde-free cabinetry and eliminate the use of carpet
5. Select products made from renewable resources or natural materials
6. Select dual-flush toilets minimizing water consumption
7. Select plumbing fixtures with the same idea in mind
8. Install NSF certified water filters
9. Install Energy Star dehumidifier with sensor and HEPA filter

Dedicating your home to the cause

1. Utilize solar for energy and/or hot water heat
2. Select Insulated Concrete Forms for your foundation system
3. Consider Structural Insulated Panels for your framing method
4. Utilize a Ground Source Heat Pump for heating and cooling