



It's Easy Being Green

with Structures Design/Build

What is Green Building?

Green Building is "Environmentally Sustainable Healthy Construction." That means the qualities of both the indoor and outdoor environments have been considered and protected during its design, construction and use.

Actually being Green takes into account of a lot more factors than just choosing energy efficient products. Green Building also considers the following factors:

- Water conservation
- Healthier indoor air quality
- Saving natural resources
- Using bioregional materials
- Using recycled materials
- Reducing the building carbon footprint
- Renewable Energy use
- Appropriate site design and landscaping

Why Consider Green Building?

Green Building is simply a good way to build. Some of the benefits of Green Building are:

- Utilizing natural ambient light sources and energy efficient building products can **save homeowners money** by minimizing energy and water usage.
- Incorporating bioregional resources in the construction and using reclaimed lumber and recycled building products can **reduce consumption of raw natural materials** and energy used to manufacture, deliver, and distribute products and services.
- Green Building can contribute to **better air quality and healthier living environments** by reducing and or eliminating the harmful chemicals that may be in paints, glues, resins, and solvents.

Shades of Green

Green Building is made of shades of green. Many of your choices come with negligible or little additional cost to your building budget and some may be more cost intensive to implement but pay for themselves years down the road in energy costs and environmental gains.

You may choose to use energy star rated appliances, high performance windows, or you may choose paints and glues with low or no VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds). Going Green can be as simple as changing your flooring preference. Believe it or not your carpet can be made from recycled soda bottles or your hardwood flooring choice can be from a sustainable managed forests or rapidly renewable resources such as cork.

Structures and Green Building

Adam Cohen, co-owner of Structures Design/Build, has a 25-year history of Green Building and is a certified Green Builder by the National Association of Homebuilders and holds the designation of LEED Accredited Professional from the U.S. Green Building Council. He has completed numerous environmentally sustainable healthy structures utilizing bioregional materials throughout Southwest Virginia.

If you are interested in integrating Green Building technology into your home or building, Structures Design/Build can meet your needs. For more information call **540-774-4800** or visit us on the web at **www.StructuresDB.com**.