

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT GREEN REMODELING

What is green remodeling?

A home can be considered green when energy efficiency, water and resource conservation, sustainable or recycled products, and indoor air quality considerations are incorporated into the process of home building. The increased availability of education for builders, growing consumer awareness and the exploding market for sustainable, environmentally friendly and recycled building products has accelerated green building's acceptance rate and move into the mainstream. According to a recent survey, more than half of the members of the National Association of Home Builders, who build 85 percent of the homes in this country, were incorporating green practices into the development, design and construction of new homes by the end of 2007.

What are the benefits of green remodeling?

Green homeowners enjoy knowing they are doing something good for the environment, their family and the future by saving energy and precious resources.

It's good for the community, too. Local jurisdictions can make consumers aware of rebates and credits to encourage them to build green. By using fewer materials and generating less waste, green remodeling can help counties lower waste management fees, achieve recycling goals and delay the need for new power sources.

Who does green remodeling?

A new professional designation program from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) provide home buyers with additional assurance that the remodeler they've chosen is authentically "green."

The Certified Green Professional™ designation was unveiled during Green Day at the International Builders' Show in Orlando, FL in early 2008. The designation course will be coming to the Home Builders Association of the Sioux Empire in the fall of 2008 for HBASE members.

"We know green is the future of building. With the Certified Green Professional designation, we're helping our qualified members demonstrate to their clients that the future is here," said NAHB President Sandy Dunn, a West Virginia home builder.

When a green home doesn't look or feel significantly different from one built using more traditional construction methods, when builders have the tools and resources to build them without sizeable materials or labor cost increases, and when consumers readily accept the finished product, then 'green' has arrived.

The exploding market for sustainable, environmentally friendly and recycled building products, along with the greater availability of educational opportunities for builders, has accelerated green building's acceptance rate.

