

Why Build Green?

It's in the news, its on home improvement TV, in magazines, even in politics. Its sounds like a good thing to do, but why? In the broadest sense, the ideas behind green construction affect us all. In building healthier, more efficient homes, we are making an impact on the environment, our health, and our budgets. While there are many reasons to build green, here are just 3 that motivate us as a company.

BUILD GREEN out of concern for the environment

By using sustainable building methods, we can reduce our environmental footprint by making a few simple choices. By choosing to remodel an existing home, you have already made a "green" choice. If you are building a new home, building up instead of out reduces the building footprint and disturbs less of the surrounding environment. Installing high efficiency heating and cooling, light fixtures, and plumbing fixtures reduces the demand on energy resources. Recycling construction waste not only diverts the waste from landfills, it also reduces our reliance on virgin materials.

BUILD GREEN to improve the "health" of their home

In 2010, the EPA instituted the LEAD Renovation and Repair program. This program requires contractors to follow certain guidelines when renovating homes built before 1978, assuming that there is lead paint present in the house. This illustrates the importance of choosing building materials wisely. By using natural, renewable, chemical free materials, your home is healthier and often more durable.

There are other ways to make your home healthy as well. Using hard flooring (tile, wood, concrete, etc) can prevent moisture and other contaminants often present in carpet. Using MERV 8 or better air filters in your HVAC system will filter out more contaminants.

BUILD GREEN to reduce utility costs

Using new technologies that focus on water and energy efficiency, you may be able to significantly reduce long term costs for operating and maintaining your home. This can be solar panels, a geothermal heat pump system, or something as simple as rainwater harvesting for irrigation. Installing good insulation will reduce the air leakage, saving you money on heating and cooling the house. Using

Whatever *your* reason for building green, we can work together to identify the areas where you can "go green" during the renovation of your home.