

What kind of materials and practices has your company employed that makes your projects Green?

We start at the very beginning by looking at the site and determining how best to make use of natural features, and how to minimize the impact on surrounding features or properties. We ask if the size of the project is appropriate for the house and property as well as the community? How much house do we need to build to achieve the goals of the homeowner. Can those goals be met in less obvious ways?

We require the use of certain materials on our projects, and will not allow the use of others (with some extreme exceptions).

We now sort all of our waste material to pull out clean lumber and cardboard that can be recycled. When possible we use a dumpster company that will sort each load for all recyclable materials.

We survey the site to determine how we can integrate with the existing landscape, make use of natural shade features, and minimize or maximize solar gain in our room layout.

We utilize Advanced Framing Techniques which result in 5-10% less lumber consumption.

We design for an open and flexible floor plan that limits the number of doors and full height walls. This decreases our lumber consumption significantly, and helps our HVAC systems run more efficiently.

We do our best to limit our projects to within a 15 minute drive of each other and our office. This means that we consume less fuel.

We replace mercury thermostats with non-mercury programmable thermostats.

Materials we use:

Dual-flush low-flow toilets
Icynene insulation
Metal roofing products (shingles and panels)
FSC certified millwork (when possible)
Remnant granite
Shade tree, lyptus, palm, and mesquite flooring
Engineered hardwood flooring
Marmoleum, recycled rubber, and cork flooring
Bamboo flooring and sheet material (for cabinets)
3-form Ecoresin (for doors)
Triple glaze wood and aluminum clad wood windows

Materials we don't use:

Vinyl windows
Vinyl siding
Vinyl flooring
Pergo or similar laminate flooring
Aluminum siding
Aluminum windows
Fiberglass insulation
Corian or other petroleum-based countertop material
Built-rite or other formaldehyde-rich sheathing material
Tropical hardwoods that are not FSC certified

Materials we limit our use of:

OSB
Carpet
MDF
Lacquer
Asphalt shingles