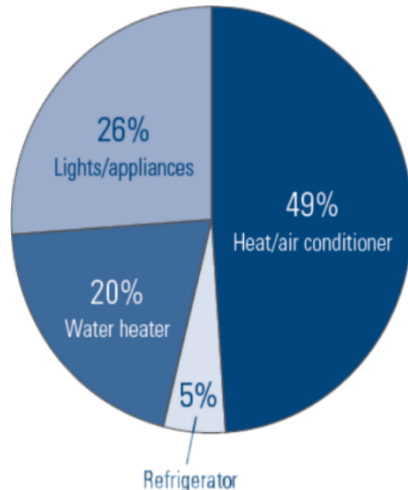




## Green Information/Facts/Resources

### TYPICAL HOME ENERGY USE



Source: Energy Information Administration.  
"2005 Residential Energy Consumption Survey."

#### Two-thirds of consumers recognize the link between green homes, cost savings, and healthy living.

Source: McGraw Hill.

"SmartMarket Report 2007, Green Homeowner Issue."

- On average, green homeowners see an 18% reduction in energy and water bills.
- Get certified for green and energy-saving features. Third-party certifications can help sell green-built homes for 30 percent more and 18 percent faster.

Source: Special feature: Green houses save money, sell for more By Michele Lerner SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES - June 25, 2009

- The mandates are coming, some argue, because, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, residential and commercial buildings account for 48 percent of all energy consumption in the U.S., and green home building has the potential to lower energy expenditures by 50 percent, according to Harvey Bernstein, vice president of Industry Analytics, Alliances and Strategic Initiatives for McGraw Hill.

- According to the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), 90-percent of homebuyers consider energy efficiency an important consideration when shopping for a home. <sup>\*1</sup> Further compounding the importance of energy efficiency, the report also indicates that "72% of consumers report energy-efficient features in a home would influence their purchase decision" and "61% would spend more than \$5,000 upfront to save on utility costs." <sup>\*2</sup> For these reasons, energy-efficient and eco-friendly upgrades featured in advertisements and listings can attract attention and stand apart from the stiff competition on the market today.
- Source: <sup>\*1</sup> Phoebe Chongchua. "Going Green May Help Sell Your Home." Realty Times, June 5, 2009. <sup>\*2</sup> Ibid.
- The U.S. green building market is accelerating at a dramatic rate, says McGraw-Hill Construction's Green Outlook 2009: Trends Driving Change report, released at the Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Boston, MA. The value of green building construction starts was up five-fold from 2005 to 2008 (from \$10 billion to \$36-\$49 billion), and could triple by 2013, reaching \$96-\$140 billion.

#### The Role of Green Affordable Housing in Climate Action Plans (a free prerecorded webinar)

In this session, a national team of experts discusses changes in local policy that are driving action to reduce energy demand, improve energy efficiency, use cleaner energy sources, and, ultimately, reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

[http://www.enterprisecommunity.org/training\\_and\\_events/live\\_online\\_events/online\\_event\\_archive.asp#061809](http://www.enterprisecommunity.org/training_and_events/live_online_events/online_event_archive.asp#061809)



## A WORLD OF GREEN LLC

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### **Green Building Resource Guide**

The Green Building Resource Guide is a database of over 600 green building materials and products selected specifically for their usefulness to the design and building professions, rather than merely their green material content. The Green Building Resource Guide includes a unique feature that compares the cost of green products to conventional products that they are most likely to replace. It is significant to note that many of the products listed in the Guide are the same cost or less than conventional products.

<http://www.greenguide.com/>

### **GreenSpec® Directory**

The online GreenSpec® Directory lists product descriptions for over 2,000 environmentally preferable products. To choose these products our editors conduct their own research based on GreenSpec's current editorial focus. Thus not all product suggestions we receive are selected for review. This independent research ensures that our product descriptions contain unbiased, quality information. Unlike many other directories, we do not charge for listings or sell ads.

<http://www.buildinggreen.com/menus/index.cfm>

### **Green Furniture Company**

Lee Industries NaturalLee

LEE has a long track record of eco-friendly manufacturing. We use naturalLEE soy-based cushions, certified frames, recycled filling for pillows, water based stains, and offer many organic and natural fabrics. In our manufacturing process, we reuse or recycle approximately 95% of all the materials that enter the production stream. Just by using the naturalLEE cushions, in 2007 alone, LEE Industries has saved over 10,000 gallons of crude oil and has eliminated 54,000 pounds of CO2 emissions

<http://www.leeindustries.com/aboutenvironmentinside.asp>

### **Natural Home Magazine**

Natural Home magazine is the authority on green building and eco-friendly home design. Since 1999, Natural Home has given eco-conscious homeowners the information they need to live in energy-efficient, healthy homes. With an up-to-date outlook on current trends in green building and wholesome living,

<https://www.naturalhomemagazine.com>

### **Quick Green Decorating and Materials Tips**

- Look for pieces marked as being FSC certified to ensure you are getting sustainable wood furniture. The FSC (Forestry Stewardship Council) certification indicates that the wood used in the furniture was harvested according to FSC standards. These standards are designed to protect indigenous animals, plants and soil and ensure the piece was manufactured using limited chemicals and environmentally friendly techniques.
- You can also choose furnishing made from environmentally sustainable products. For example, bamboo is a type of grass that grows to useable size in just a few years. It's amazingly strong and has been used in the tropics for centuries to build homes and bridges so you know it will last. Furniture, flooring and cabinets made from bamboo has become quite common in North America in recent years.
- Flooring made from 'green' products such as bamboo or even cork can provide attractive, cost effective alternatives to traditional wood products. Cork is actually the bark of cork trees and has been harvested and used for flooring for centuries in Europe. The trees suffer no damage from the harvesting of their bark and many trees have been harvested for literally hundreds of years.
- Using carpets, rugs and even draperies made from natural products such as sisal, cotton or other organic products will minimize the use of petroleum products for home furnishings. Many kinds of carpets and drapery fabrics are made from petroleum products or synthetic fibers. Not only does the manufacture of these products use non-renewable resources, at the end of their useful life, they end up in landfills where they won't break down like natural materials.