



# Prefab : The New Green !

## New Home Project Checklist

A green home is an earth and people-friendly home, protecting the health of your family and the environment. It's a more comfortable, durable, higher quality home. It's easier and more economical to live in because it's low-maintenance and energy and water efficient.

Our Green Home Checklist will help you make more informed choices during the construction process and design review when building your new prefab home.

Criteria	✓
<b>The Right Sight: A well located site with smart home placement, utilities, and landscaping are important to help make your home comfortable, affordable and attractive.</b>	
Smart Location: Chose a home site with close proximity to services and community facilities.	
Protect Environmental Resources: Do not locate home within 100 ft of wetlands or natural habitats	
Develop a Green Plan: Work with designer and home builder who specialize & undestand green building practices	
Smart Home Site: Place home pad in open area to make greatest use of passive solar heating & Photovoltaic Solar	
Plant water-efficient Bermuda or buffalo grass in sunny area in lieu of turf grasses	
Chose plants, shrubs & trees that are indigenous to NorCal, require low watering and are non-evasive (zeriscaping)	
<b>Green Site Improvement Options: Discuss and Budget for "Green" site improvements early in the project</b>	
Surface and Storm Water Management: Use Rainwater Capture System, bioswales, retention ponds and Pervious Paving & Walkways to reduce storm water runoff and conserve water for future irrigation use. Water should be directed at least 5' from your home foundation.	
Use Fly ash or rice hulls in the concrete mix	
Erosion and Sedimentation Control: Implement EPA's Best Management Practices	
Project Waste Diversion: Use a home builder who practices recycling, material sorting, and waste diversion practices to reduce landfill usage.	
Efficient irrigation: water with collected runoff water, and a drip irrigation system with separate zones.	
Install a 6mil vapor barrier under home and garage with overlapping joints of approximately 12" - <i>depending on slope</i>	
Reduce glare and heat island effect: Chose high emissive metal roofing for home, and light colored or open grid pavement with a min Solar Reflective Index of .6 over at least 50% of hardscape areas within 50' of home	
<b>Home Orientation: Comfort and economy are possible when a house is designed for its site and climate.</b>	
Longest walls face north and south.	
Most windows face north and south for passive solar heat gain.	
Most East/West windows are shaded on the outside by overhangs, covered porches, awnings, trees, or pergolas.	
Garage and least-used rooms are positioned on west side as thermal buffers from the west sun.	
Provide an air barrier between Garage and Home. If garage is to be attached, install a Co2 detector inside the home on a wall nearest to garage access door.	

## Lower Embodied Energy: Think Global, Act Local!

Using local businesses and products keeps the local economy healthy, assures you the knowledge of local planning practices, while reducing the effects of transportation on our air quality. Request to use regional materials such as manzanita, native cedar, oak, pine wood, local brick, limestone, and granite.

Engage the services of local artists and artisans for items such custom cabinetry, wood flooring, metal work & wall murals.

## Living Green and Your New Prefab Home

Your factory home from **American Home Sales** is designed to include many sustainable green building features; Energy Star New Home construction program, water conserving fixtures, improved indoor air quality, low VOC products, high efficiency appliances, renewable and recycled building materials, reduced waste thru lean building practices, zero energy options with solar ready technology, programmable thermostat, low-e *high efficient* windows, low maintenance concrete siding, Energy Star appliances, insulated duct system, and the home is also pressure-tested for leaks to ensure a tight building envelope.

### Efficiency and Design: Practices and choices to save you money

Light colored paint, siding, & roofing are used to reduce heat island effect and lower interior temp in summer

Research life cycle of building materials. Choose those building products that have longevity and are low maintenance. Steer clear of pressed wood siding.

Design for Ventilation: Place windows on two walls of each room and position for cross breezes

Increased Day lighting: Natural light is proven to elevate mood & atmosphere in addition to reducing energy usage

Maximum Insulation: Increasing attic insulation is far more important due to our extreme climate changes

Unshaded windows have solar screens (except North side)

Ceiling fans in all major rooms

Choose an A/C with a cooling efficiency is 13.0 SEER or higher

Cooling system is "the right size" for the house. The general rule is 600 sq. ft. of living space per ton of cooling. For our climate, oversized equipment does not run long enough to operate efficiently or dehumidify enough for comfort.

Change your air filter as directed

Exterior lights have light and motion detectors to conserve energy

### AIR QUALITY: Using the right materials can improve indoor air quality and increase comfort.

Flooring is mostly hard surface, such as concrete, tile or wood

Other flooring materials are natural wool, jute, sea grass, cork or true linoleum

No vinyl wallboard or wallpaper is used in the home

Use only household cleaning products that contain no CFC's or VOC's

Install a Carbon Monoxide detector for safety

### Lead by Example!

Design your home to include a Recycling Center or Trash Compactor & reduce impact on landfills

CFL's will save you money and help reduce green house gas emissions

Install a water filtration system in lieu of buying bottled water

Spread the word to your neighbors, family, and friends! *Every effort makes a difference!*