

PATH is a program funded by HUD, which allows environmental consultants to work with developers/builders to incorporate innovative and green building technology into renovations and new construction.

The design department has been working with PATH on the Ella Jo Baker Co-op. We have worked with PATH over the past several months and would like to incorporate their recommendations into the construction of the University Place houses where possible. The idea is start on a small scale with the idea that with every project more and more “green methods” can be incorporated.

PATH’S 10 Low Cost/No Cost Starter Steps to Promote “Green” Building

- 1) Space metal or wood studs 24”o.c. rather than 16”o.c.
 - Reduces the amount of studs used (lowering cost and labor time).
- 2) Use salvaged wood studs wherever possible. (This depends on the supply of salvaged wood.)
 - Lowers the amount of new wood that needs to be purchased and the amount of waste brought to landfills.
- 3) Use drywall clips instead of additional studs for drywall backing at corners and tee intersections.
 - Uses less wood and metal studs, lowering cost and consumption.
 - Allows for insulation at corners.
- 4) Seal as many cracks and gaps as possible. Use caulk and spray foam sealant, not fiberglass insulation.
 - “Excess infiltration of cold air in the winter and hot humid air during the summer can raise heating and cooling bills by 30%.” -Source GreenHome’s *Green and Lean* book.
- 5) Use Formaldehyde-free insulation. (We have used this in 2548.)
 - Formaldehyde is classified as a “probable human carcinogen”. Formaldehyde-free insulation eliminates formaldehyde emissions during manufacturing, and eliminates indoor air quality concerns from insulation.
- 6) Use Energy Star® dishwasher and refrigerator.
 - Reduces energy bills for the homeowner.
- 7) Use low or no VOC paints.
 - VOC’s (volatile organic compounds) add to urban smog and create unhealthy indoor environments. No VOC paints improve indoor air quality for workers and homeowners.
- 8) Purchase certified wood trim. When purchasing trim at Lowe’s or Home Depot ask for trim that is certified. It should have a certified sticker or stamp on it.
 - Certified wood means it has been forested from a sustainably managed forest.
- 9) Apply fibered aluminum coating to asphalt roof. Having a light colored roof:
 - Helps lower the surface temperature of the roof, and reduces the heat wave island effect created when heat from the sun is absorbed and radiated back to surrounding areas.
 - Keeps the attic space cooler.
 - Increases the life span of the roof.
- 10) Use slag (e.g. NewCem or GranCem) in new concrete.
 - Slag (granulated blast-furnace slag (GBFS)) is a recycled material added to concrete, partially replacing the amount of portland cement without comprising the strength of the mix.

Why
go
green?

Building construction “accounts for roughly 20-30% of US landfill waste.”

“To lower water and energy bills”.

To build “healthier living environments” for our homeowners.