

Energy Efficiency

Homes that are built to the National Green Building Standard will cost homeowners less to heat and cool than code–minimum homes, and will also provide more comfortable living areas for the occupants.



FEATURES

BENEFITS

- **Correctly installed insulation and air sealing**

Improperly installed insulation can lead to cold spots in the home and excessive utility cost. A home that is properly insulated and air sealed, and has been inspected by an independent third party, ensures that it meets the expected level of performance and helps maximize the homeowners' comfort in all areas of the home.

- **Programmable thermostat**

A programmable thermostat makes it easy to save by offering pre-programmed settings for winter and summer, for when asleep or away. EPA estimates a \$180 annual savings for a typical single family home.

- **Energy-efficient lighting**

Energy Star fixtures and bulbs last 6-10 times longer than standard models and provide the same amount of light while running on two-thirds less energy.

- **Energy efficient appliances**

Energy Star appliances use less power and water which means cost saving to the homeowner.

- **Heating and cooling (HVAC) design and installation**

Properly sized HVAC equipment and expert installation are critical. They ensure the home is comfortable and the equipment runs effectively. Improperly sized equipment is more costly to purchase and operate.

- **HVAC duct system is tested for air leakage**

Tight ducts are essential for a properly performing and energy efficient HVAC system. Leaky ducts can cause unevenly heated or cooled rooms and can also cause excess moisture and dust to enter the home. Tight ducts make for a more comfortable home, and the system will cost less to operate.