

Sustainability and Resource Use

Minimizing resource use is important for sustainability. It is encouraged that new accessory residential buildings take advantage of opportunities for utilizing greener building materials and practices, natural ventilation, and solar energy. Consideration should be given to reduce energy consumption through dwelling design, building orientation and layout, stream lining building techniques, and the use of energy efficiency technology.

Building a “green” building provides environmental benefits now and into the future by reducing resources and energy consumption. There are also economic benefits involved with constructing a green building. While the initial costs vary, the overall savings from conserving resources such as water and energy are quite significant.

New *accessory residential buildings* are encouraged to incorporate energy efficient designs and eco-friendly building materials to meet the minimal standards of Built Green™. It is also encouraged that energy efficient appliances be used to minimize resource and energy use.

The primary purpose of Built Green™ is to encourage homebuilders to use technologies, products and practices that will:

- Provide greater energy efficiency and reduce pollution
- Provide healthier indoor air
- Reduce water usage
- Preserve natural resources
- Improve durability and reduce maintenance

Built Green™ concentrates on four areas of environmental concern:

- Energy Efficiency
- Indoor Air Quality
- Resource Use (including Waste Management)
- Overall Environmental Impact

For update information on Built Green™ criteria, see www.builtgreencanada.ca