

What is BUILT GREEN?

BUILT GREEN is an environmental building program designed to provide homebuyers with comfortable, durable, environmentally friendly homes that are cost-effective to own and operate. These resource-efficient homes are crafted to exceed building codes and provide homeowners with years of healthy, quality living, while protecting the precious Northwest environment.

Every **BUILT GREEN** home must meet green building standards developed by the Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties in partnership with regional government and environmental groups. Each home builder completes a **BUILT GREEN** checklist identifying the specific green building features of the home. The program can certify several types of residential projects including:

- New single-family homes
- New multi-family homes
- Remodeling projects
- Community Developments

The **BUILT GREEN** logo is your assurance that the builder has certified your new home using Built Green standards and a Built Green checklist.

www.builtgreen.net

Winning Ways with Water



(Left) This dual flush toilet at the PSE Built Green Idea Home allows you to flush with more or less water as needed. (Right) This 'tankless' water heater by Takagi heats the water as it is needed. As well as providing hot water to fixtures and appliances, it circulates throughout the house to hydronic radiators to heat the house.



Innovative Water Use Matters

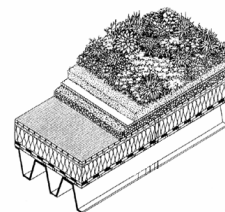
BUILT GREEN homes can offer innovative water technologies that meet your needs with less water wasted. With improved water use design your family will enjoy:

■ **Getting the Most from our Most Basic Resource:** Whether it is conserving water in fixtures and appliances, collecting and using rainwater to water the garden, or planning a garden to use less water, there are lots of ways to use water wisely. While it seems over-abundant in the Northwest for many months of the year, the dry season coincides with peak outdoor water use. Securing water resources, protecting them from contamination, treating and distributing water and collecting and treating sewage are huge costs that are covered by your taxes as well as your utility fees.

We all save when we use this precious resource efficiently.

■ **Monthly Savings:** Your water and if applicable your sewer bill are based on metered water use, so every gallon you conserve saves money. Hot water has the further cost of heating, so hot water savings means a smaller energy bill.

■ **Contentment:** You can relax knowing that you are helping protect a vital resource for a future generations.



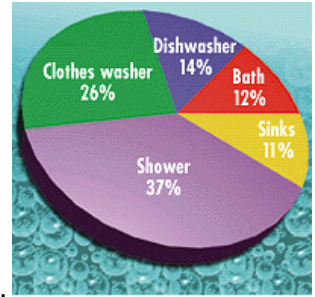
One innovative way to reduce stormwater runoff is a vegetated roof, which utilizes protective layers on the roof to hold a 'thin' garden, using alpine plants that are well adapted those conditions.

Green Construction Details in Water-wise Innovations

Conscientious contractors have many options for improving the flow of water through our lives including:

- Enhancing the ability of the site to absorb stormwater by not compacting soils during construction, amending soils in preparing the yard areas, and creating walkways and drives that can filter water, such as pervious paving.
- Installing a tankless hot water heater can be more efficient than traditional water tanks. Point of use flash heaters also save water providing hot water where and when you need it so you don't have to run the cold water through the pipes and down the drain waiting for the hot to arrive.
- Efficient fixtures, like ultra low flow (less than 1.6 gallons per flush), or dual flush toilets, low

flow showerheads (2 gallons per minute with an on/off switch) and faucets save a lot of water AND energy since so much of the water used is hot water.



Hot Water Usage

(based on national averages)

The typical U.S. homeowner's water consumption by place of use.

- Rainwater harvesting with rain barrels or a cistern reduces stormwater run off from the roof and provides you with a water supply for summer garden watering.
- Efficient appliances can save considerable water, again much of it hot water. Look for ENERGY STAR® clothes and dish washers.

10 Actions You Can Take for a Water-wise Home

During Construction:

1. Let your builder know that water conservation and protection are high priorities for you and your family.
2. Refer to a BUILT GREEN checklist (online) and ask your builder to highlight actions they are taking to preserve and protect water.

Living in your Home:

3. Check for and fix leaks in faucets, toilets and pipes.
4. Limit or eliminate lawn, and where there is lawn choose drought tolerant varieties.
5. Mulch exposed soils in garden beds.
6. Add aerators to faucets that aren't already low

flow.

7. Install some rain barrels at your gutter downspouts to harvest rainwater.
8. Use drip hoses to irrigate when necessary.
9. Avoid outdoor chemicals and fix oil and other fluid leaks on the car to prevent contamination of runoff.
10. Amend soils with compost to a depth of 8-13" to increase their ability to hold water.



This attractive rain barrel was featured at the PSE Built Green Idea Home

"The use of drought tolerant and native landscape plantings lowers overall maintenance and irrigation costs and enhances plant success." - The Cottage Company

For more information

- The Saving Water Partnership has great fact sheets and information on local utility incentive programs, 206-684-SAVE (7283), <http://www.savingwater.org>
- H2OUSE at <http://www.h2ouse.org> has great tools for water saving
- Natural Lawn & Garden Hotline, 206-633-0224, e-mail info@lawnandgardenhotline.org, <http://www.lawnandgardenhotline.org>
- WSU Master Gardeners, 206-296-3440, <http://gardening.wsu.edu>



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