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WOULD YOU LIKE TO REDUCE YOUR ENERGY COSTS?

One thing that homeowners and business owners have in common is the desire to reduce energy costs. In today's "green" world, more and more people are looking for ways to cut down on energy usage. One easy way to accomplish this is by maximizing the use of natural light during daylight hours, thus eliminating a good portion of the electric consumed during this time.

One obvious way to do this is by installing more **Marvin** windows in your home. You

can get Marvin windows in a variety of shapes and sizes, including octagons, hexagons, trapezoids, pentoids and triangles. Polygons and special shape windows come standard as direct glaze units. Direct glaze maximizes the light coming through the window. **Marvin** products can also meet Energy Star requirements in all four regions.

An alternative way to let in natural daylight is to install a **Velux** skylight or **SUN TUNNEL™**. Skylights are

designed for overhead, out-of-reach applications or in-reach applications that will not require emergency escape capabilities. Skylights come in a wide range of sizes and features. The **SUN TUNNEL™** skylight is ideal for smaller rooms like hallways, closets, laundry rooms, and second baths. This tubular product allows you to add natural light to places you would have thought impossible. Installation is fast and easy and the light that comes in is white and bright.



It can be very confusing as to what kind of building materials make a home greener. Follow this basic guide of criteria and you should end up with a significantly "greener" home.

1. The materials you use to build with and where they come from are a huge part of determining greenness. Use products that are made with recycled, salvaged or agricultural waste content.
2. Use products that conserve natural resources. This would include products that are more durable, requiring less replacement in the long run. Utilize products that contain less material than the standard and products that are FSC-certified wood products or products made from rapidly renewable resources like bamboo.
3. You will want to avoid products that emit toxins or other emissions. For example, try to avoid substances that deplete stratospheric ozone and others that are associated with ecological or health hazards.
4. Use products that save energy and water. Use materials that reduce heating and cooling loads. Install equipments such as water heaters and refrigerators that conserve energy and manage loads.
5. Last but not least, use products that contribute to a safe and healthy environment. Including, products to improve light quality, products that help control noise, products that will alert people of health hazards in the building, products that will remove indoor pollutants, and of course, products that do not emit pollutants into the building.

There are many different aspects that go into making a home green. However, there are so many different green products readily available for your building needs, that every day it is becoming easier to build environmentally friendly homes.



THE GREEN ZONE

Creative Millwork is Going Green!

We are switching to paperless invoices & statements this month. What does this mean for you? Please look for your invoices & statements on your fax machine. If you prefer email or if you have any questions, please contact our office. Thank you for your cooperation.

Note: We will gladly continue to mail out invoices if it is not convenient to have them faxed or emailed to you.