

COST of GREEN for Habitat Homes

Painless = No (or very little) increase in cost

Easy = \$100 - \$500 increase in cost

Moderate = > \$500 increase in cost

Worth consideration = will increase cost \$1000 - \$6000, but will **greatly** improve the long-term efficiency of the home (this means **lower monthly utility bills** for partner families)

Prices Vary According to Area

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Painless

- Caulk all penetrations in building envelope, air-sealing electrical, plumbing and HVAC
- Energy Heel or Raised Heel Truss for even insulation coverage
- Advanced Framing (24" on center)
- Use passive solar orientation in layout of houses on lots
- FREE from Whirlpool: Energy Star refrigerator.
- FREE Dow products such as blueboard, housewrap, housewrap tape, sill seal, window flashing tape, pan flashing, great stuff foam
- Increase efficiency of dryers by widening diameter of outlet exhaust duct (to 6") and regular lint removal by homeowners
- Native plantings, drought-tolerant plants and trees, limit lawn imprint. Work with local garden club, county extension office, or landscaping/environmental organizations.
- Energy Star kitchen appliances (Whirlpool discount and others)
- CFL (Compact fluorescent) bulbs.
- Time exterior lights to go off at dawn

Easy

- Increased insulation levels, particularly in ceiling and then walls
- Use of foam (sprayed in) insulation; open cell vs. closed cell
- Energy Star Light Fixtures
- Energy Smart Electric Water Heaters
- Ducts placed inside envelope of house (drop the ceiling)
- Mastic used on all seams and joints of ductwork

Moderate

- Radiant In-Floor Heating
- Energy Star Qualified windows. Anderson, Pella, Milguard, Jeldwen, CertainTeed
- Tankless Water Heaters

Worth consideration

- Insulated Concrete Form (ICF) or Structured Insulated Panel (SIP) for exterior walls
- Higher Efficiency Energy Star boilers/furnaces (90% AFUE +)
- Higher Efficiency Heat Pumps
- Solar hot air or hot water systems

WATER CONSERVATION

Painless

- Low-flow water fixtures for sinks and shower heads
- Native plantings, drought-tolerant plants and trees, and limit lawn imprint
- Design House with all fixtures within 20 piped feet of water heater (can save on costs)
- **Donated** Ferguson Low-Flow toilet

Easy

- Dishwasher (if you install one). Use Whirlpool discounted Energy Star

Moderate

- Permeable pavers (instead of concrete) or lattice cement design
- Front-loading washing machine (also for Energy Efficiency and IAQ)

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

Painless

- Laminate tongue/groove flooring
- **Donated** Valspar Paint (low in Volatile Organic Chemicals)
- Low VOC caulks and sealants
- Water-based adhesive for indoor applications.
- Elimination of wall-to-wall carpet. **No carpet in basements!**
- Non-urea formaldehyde plywood.

Easy

- Panasonic fans, rated quiet and for continuous running—both kitchen and bath, exhausted outdoors on short runs.
- Formaldehyde-free insulation, John Manville insulation (no added formaldehyde and 30% recycled glass)

Moderate

- Heat Recovery Ventilator HRV (colder climates)
- Blown in cellulose insulation

DURABILITY

Painless

- PEX Tubing for plumbing instead of traditional plumbing (in most areas should be cheaper to install and easier to maintain)

Worth Consideration

- ICF (Insulated Concrete Form) or SIP construction
- Cementboard Siding. (In some areas, same price as vinyl siding).
 - Cimplank
 - Hardiplank

RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Painless

- Advanced Framing
- Sort construction debris for recycling
- Fence off saved trees and plants on lots.
- Use silt fences to control erosion and silting of streams. Usually code in most areas.
- Use of Engineered lumber, OSB, I-joists, LSL, etc...
- Frost Protected Shallow Foundations **saves money**

Easy

- Wheat-board or FSC wood cabinets
- FSC wood
- Slope run-off on lots into natural swales to reduce erosion and silting of streams
- Use of Recycled Products: drywall, concrete, MDF, ReStore products, etc.