



Green Building Decision Kit : WORKBOOK

INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

1 Initial Considerations

M D O U N

1A = Assembling the Design Team

Do you want to work with professionals who have already established a track record in the sustainable residential building arena?

M D O U N

Are you willing to work with professionals who are making the transition to sustainable residential building practices?

M D O U N

Do you already have a relationship with a team of professionals with whom you want to work, but who will have to be convinced (or educated) to use sustainable building practices and techniques?

YES NO

Have you contacted your local zoning commission and building inspection department to determine what is and is not allowable at your building site?

YES NO

Is your local zoning or building departments familiar with or have a green building program?

YES NO

COMMENTS:

1B = Developing a Budget

Have you incorporated unconventional attributes into your budgeting process:

YES NO

- Trade-offs,
- Lifecycle Costs/Benefits,
- Avoided Health Issues, and
- Environmental Preservation?

COMMENTS:



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1 Initial Considerations (con't)

1C = Designing a Building to be Durable

- Is durability a concern to you? M D O U N
- How long do you intend the building to last
 - Five years? 50 years?
 - Ten years? 75 years?
 - 20 years? 100 years or longer?
- Is it your desire to pass this building along to future generations? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

1D = Deconstruction of Existing Building or Planned Deconstruction of New Buildings

- If you have a residential or commercial building that has come to the end of its life cycle, what will happen to that building's components and materials? _____
- Will you (or a future owner) be able to recycle or reuse/donate the building's components at the end of its life cycle so they won't contribute to landfill problems? M D O U N
- Will there be products that could be considered toxic waste involved in the building that will require special treatment? YES NO
- Can the toxic products involved in the building be replaced with versions that are not so toxic or are safe or inert? YES NO
- Do you feel that these things are important for you to consider? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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1 Initial Considerations (con't)

1E = Local Sourcing of Building Materials and Components

How far away are you willing to go to get the materials to construct your new building?

Are you willing to have a percentage of your materials be local and some not local?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

1F = Financing Options and Programs

Does the lender you are considering make special financing programs available, such as Energy Efficient Mortgages or Green Mortgages?

YES NO

Are you willing to look for a lender who offers special financing if your local bank or other lender does not?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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2

Building Site

M

D

O

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N

2A = Lot vs. Acreage vs. Infill

Does your lifestyle and financial situation lend itself to your choice of building site?

YES

NO

COMMENTS:

2B = Proximity to Services

Have you considered proximity in the choice of your building site:

YES

NO

Public Services?

Shopping?

Schools?

Green Spaces, Parks?

COMMENTS:

2C = Covenants, Zoning, Land and Mineral Rights, Previous Use and Restrictions

Do zoning or other restrictions apply to your building site?

YES

NO

Are there covenants or restrictions on using solar power?

YES

NO

What was previously located on your building site?

COMMENTS:



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2 Building Site (con't)

2D = Access to Roads and Mass Transportation

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have you included parking, access to roads and/or mass transportation in the choice of your building site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is there adequate road maintenance in and around your building site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is the potential commute within the range of your alternative fuel vehicle? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does the community budget to properly maintain bridges, sidewalks, etc. | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do the roads delineate space for bicycles or are there bicycle trails available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are there adequate sidewalks so that adult pedestrians and children have a place to walk away from traffic? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are there safe crosswalks or overhead walkways for use to cross busy streets? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND |

COMMENTS:

2E = Access to Utilities

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have you included access to utilities in the choice of your building site: | <input type="checkbox"/> | M | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | O | <input type="checkbox"/> | U | <input type="checkbox"/> | N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sewer? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Electricity? | | | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public Water? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Natural Gas or Propane? | | | | | | | | |

SEWER

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are you required to be hooked up to a public sewer system? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | ND | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is a septic system possible and desirable in your chosen location? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | O | <input type="checkbox"/> | U | <input type="checkbox"/> | N |



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2 Building Site (con't)

2E = Access to Utilities (con't)

<input type="checkbox"/> Are you interested in pursuing environmental sewage treatment options?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
---	--------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------

WATER

<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have access to a public water supply?	<input type="checkbox"/>		YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/> Would a well be a viable option at your site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Is there a water delivery service available?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have room for a water tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground	<hr/>					
<input type="checkbox"/> Below ground?	<hr/>					

ELECTRICITY

<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have solar access for a PV system?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have access to grid-provided electricity?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Is net metering an option with your electricity provider?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Is there adequate wind for a microturbine?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>

NATURAL GAS OR PROPANE

<input type="checkbox"/> Do you have access to natural gas lines?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Are there covenants or zoning restrictions for the propane storage tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>		YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/> Will you have room for the tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> In inclement weather will it be difficult or impossible to get the propane tank refilled?	<input type="checkbox"/>		YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	



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2 Building Site (con't)

2F = Land Characteristics

- Are you looking for:
 - A flat building site? M D O U N
 - A great view from a plateau or hillside or mountain? M D O U N
 - Seclusion in a treed area? M D O U N
 - Location in an exclusive neighborhood? M D O U N
 - Location in an historic neighborhood? M D O U N
 - Location in a small town? M D O U N
 - Location downtown? M D O U N
 - Location in a reclaimed infill community? M D O U N
- Have you included land characteristics and natural features in the choice of your building site? M D O U N
- On your site, does water flow
 - Toward the building location? YES NO
 - Away from the building location? YES NO
- How will your construction affect or change the water run off onto a neighbor's property? _____
- What are the wind patterns for the various seasons or is there a lack of wind? _____
- Is the ground rocky? YES NO
- Does it have good soil? YES NO
- How deep is bedrock? _____
- Where is the best view? _____
- Do you want to limit the windows on the afternoon side of the building to help reduce the air conditioning load? M D O U N



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2 Building Site (con't)

2F = Land Characteristics (con't)

- | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are you restricted as to where you may place your structure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <hr/> | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is there likely to be: | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flooding? | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fire? | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Earthquakes? | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mud-slides? | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

2G = Solar Access

- | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have you taken solar access into your choice of building site? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <hr/> | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does your building site have a clear view of the sun throughout the day? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is it shaded most of the time by other buildings or trees? (Are the buildings or trees on yours or someone else's property)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What percentage of the day will you have sunlight on your structure? | | | | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are there restrictions in the community that will assure that your solar access is not impeded by your neighbors and their future construction plans? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will you be impeding your neighbor's access to solar energy? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | | |

COMMENTS:



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2 Building Site (con't)

2H = Natural Features

- Does your building site have:
 - Woods? Stream/river?
 - Lake/pond? Underground spring?
- Can you (or do you want to) incorporate any of these in a positive way into the layout of your building site? M D O U N
- Can you locate your building where the water will run away from it naturally, such as a natural high spot or swale, or on a slope? M D O U N
- If there is a spring-fed river or stream nearby would you be able to install a small hydro-electric system to provide electricity to your building? M D O U N
- Does your building site have a significant wind resource? M D O U N
- Is your site already a home to other species or a migratory path? YES NO

COMMENTS:

2I = Waste Management, Reduce/Reuse/Recycle

WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Will you have to remove natural obstacles to build your home? M D O U N
 - Rocks?
 - Trees?
- Other things?
- Will you have to dispose of these natural obstacles? YES NO
 - Can you recycle or donate them? M D O U N



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2 Building Site (con't)

2I = Waste Management, Reduce/Reuse/Recycle (con't)

- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Do you have a plan to use natural obstacles in your project? | <input type="checkbox"/> M | <input type="checkbox"/> D | <input type="checkbox"/> O | <input type="checkbox"/> U | <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will you want to have a compost area? | <input type="checkbox"/> M | <input type="checkbox"/> D | <input type="checkbox"/> O | <input type="checkbox"/> U | <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are there restrictions about having a compost area? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | |

COMMENTS:

REDUCE AND RECYCLE CONSTRUCTION WASTE, REUSE LUMBER

- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have you considered the construction waste that will be generated and sent to a landfill? | <input type="checkbox"/> | YES | <input type="checkbox"/> | NO | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> How much of the construction waste can/will you reduce, reuse, recycle? | <input type="checkbox"/> M | <input type="checkbox"/> D | <input type="checkbox"/> O | <input type="checkbox"/> U | <input type="checkbox"/> N |

COMMENTS:



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3

Evaluating Plans

M**D****O****U****N**

3A = Smaller Footprint or Smaller Building

Have you considered what the 'footprint' of your building will be as it relates to:

Physical size?

Resource friendly?

Pollution created (or 'carbon footprint')?

Do you need a large building to accomplish what you want?

M**D****O****U****N**

M**D****O****U****N**

COMMENTS:

3B = Floorplan: Buffer Areas, Room Use

Is the design of your building usefully functional:

How do you plan to use this new space?

Do you need separate rooms for each facet of your lifestyle?

Can you combine activities in common rooms?

Are private areas separated from public areas?

For small commercial buildings:

How do you and others intend to use the building?

How large do your office and other offices or work areas need to be?

M**D****O****U****N**

M**D****O****U****N**

COMMENTS:



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3 Evaluating Plans (con't)

3C = Energy Efficient Building Envelope

- Is your building designed to incorporate a highly energy efficient building envelope? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3D = Construction Types

- Are you willing to leave the choice of building materials and construction techniques up to the contractor/builder? M D O U N

- Have you chosen a particular type of construction which uses specific materials and techniques? YES NO

- Are you willing to educate your contractor/builder to use green building materials and techniques? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3E = Optimized for Dimensional Lumber, Alternatives

- Is the design of your building taking advantage of engineered lumber? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3F = Natural Ventilation, Shading

- Is your building designed to ventilate properly? M D O U N

- Which direction does the wind typically come from:
- In the spring?
- In the fall?

COMMENTS:



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3 Evaluating Plans (con't)

3G = Basement, Crawlspace, Slab-on-Grade, Other Foundations

Does your design use the appropriate foundation for the land characteristics? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3H = Garage, Vehicle Charging Station, Recycling Center

Will you have a garage? M D O U N
 attached detached

Do you want to plan for the eventuality of having an electric (or other alternative fuel-type) vehicle that you can refuel at your building? M D O U N

Do you want an area of your building or the garage dedicated to being a recycling center? M D O U N

Do you want or need a whole house vacuum system? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3I = Double Entry/Airlock Entry, Utility/Mud Room

Have you considered the entry areas of your home in regard to energy savings and cleanliness? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3J = Porches, Decks, Patios, Gazebos, Out Buildings

If you enjoy spending time out doors, have you considered living spaces that can be projected beyond your building envelope? M D O U N

Will you have other buildings that create a complex? M D O U N



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3 Evaluating Plans (con't)

3J = Porches, Decks, Patios, Gazebos, Out Buildings (con't)

- What purpose will these other buildings serve?
- Where will they be in relation to the main building?
- Are your outbuildings organized to be walked or driven to; so do you need to consider additional roads or pathways?
- Where will you place a barn so that it is somewhat convenient and yet you don't constantly have to smell it?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

3K = Fences, Trees, Hedges, Sight and/or Sound Buffers

- Do you need to establish a barrier between your property (or area of your property) and another space?
- Is there a privacy issue involved?
- Is there a containment issue involved (as in you have small children or pets to keep close to home or in a playground)?
- Is there an attractive nuisance nearby, such as a pond or climbing trees that you want to keep children away from?
- Is there something you would like to block from view?
- Are you close to a highway, railroad track or other audible annoyance?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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4

Advanced Planning Features

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4A = Designing for Natural Benefits from the Sun

- If you are interested in using the natural benefits of the sun, is the side of your house that faces the sun during the day clear of obstructions (i.e. trees, hi-rise buildings)?
- Have you considered the effects of the sun on your building and rooms layout?

M D O U N

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

4B = Energy Analysis and Conservation Strategies

- Does your design lend itself to zone heating and cooling?
- Are you designing your building to conserve energy?
- Will your building design be evaluated by an Energy Rating professional?

M D O U N

M D O U N

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

4C = Intelligent Design

- Have you incorporated intelligent design into your building plans?
- Are you integrating ways to make future expansions as easy as possible?
- Have you considered making your building ADA compliant?

M D O U N

M D O U N

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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4 Advanced Planning Features (con't)

4D = Addition of Solar Features

- Are you including the power of the sun in your building design: M D O U N
- Passive solar features? _____
- Active solar, thermal? _____
- Active solar, photovoltaics (PV)? _____

COMMENTS:

4E = Window Tuning and Natural Daylighting

- Are your windows 'tuned'? M D O U N
- Will you incorporate natural daylighting into the design of the building? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

4F = Incorporating Home Automation, Energy Controls and Electronics/Grounding

- Are you planning ahead for home automation, energy controls and electronics/grounding? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

4G = Wired/Wireless Network, Internet-Connected Appliances, AC/DC Wiring

- Are you planning ahead for special wiring, networking and other 'smart' technologies? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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4

Advanced Planning Features (con't)

4H = Feng Shui

Will your building design be evaluated for intangible properties such as Feng Shui (or the equivalent in your culture)?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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5

Excavation and Foundation

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5A = Save Existing Trees and Foliage to Use for Natural Landscaping

Are there trees (mature or not), bushes, foliage that are beneficial to keep in place?

M D O U N

Is there foliage that you would be purchasing already existing on your site?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5B = Utilize Felled Trees and Conserve Soil

If you must remove trees prior to excavation, will you reclaim them and not send them to rot in a landfill?

M D O U N

Is your house designed to work with the landscape and minimize excavation?

M D O U N

Is your site flat and you want to use an earth berm?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5C = Water Runoff

How are you going to handle the water (created by rain and storms) that moves across your site?

Are you bound by neighborhood covenants or zoning regulations regarding the materials you use to pave your parking areas, driveway and walks?

M D O U N

Is your home designed to use gutters?

M D O U N

Are you taking care to protect your foundation or basement from water infiltration?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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5 Excavation and Foundation (con't)

5D = Poured Concrete Foundation

- What kind of foundation is called for at your building site? _____
- Are you willing to leave the choice of foundation materials and construction techniques up to the contractor/builder? _____
- Are there foundation material alternatives with a sustainable aspect that will work for your site? _____

M D O U N

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5E = Alternate Common Foundation Materials

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5F = Uncommon Foundation Materials

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5G = Slab-on-Grade Foundation

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

5H = Crawlspace Foundation

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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5

Excavation and Foundation (con't)

5I = Basement Foundation

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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6 Structural Building Materials

M D O U N

Are you willing to leave the choice of building materials and construction techniques up to the contractor/builder?

M D O U N

Have you chosen a particular type of construction which uses specific materials and techniques?

YES NO

Are you willing to educate your contractor/builder to use green building materials and techniques?

YES NO

Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional materials/techniques vs. the green building materials/techniques you plan to use?

M D O U N

Will you be participating in the construction process?

M D O U N

Have you investigated local sources for the materials?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

6A = Structural Insulated Panels (SIPS)

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

6B = Insulated Concrete Forms (ICFs)

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

6C = Engineered Wood

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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6 Structural Building Materials (con't)

6D = Stick-Built Construction **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6E = Metal Framing, Steel Studs **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6F = Framing Techniques: Balloon vs. Platform **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6G = Advanced Framing Techniques **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6H = Panel Products **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6I = Alternate Building Materials **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:

6J = Flashing and Trim **M** **D** **O** **U** **N**

COMMENTS:



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6

Structural Building Materials (con't)

6K = Caulks, Sealants, and Adhesive Compounds

- Do you care about VOC and the toxicity levels in your caulks, sealants, and adhesive compounds? M D O U N
- Will you encourage your contractors and installers to use water-based sealants and adhesives as much as possible? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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7

Exterior Building Components

M

D

O

U

N

7A = Windows

- Do you know the placement and number of windows you will use on your structure?
- Have you considered security, size, view, ventilation, daylighting, solar gain and aesthetics in your window placements?
- Have you determined what type, framing material, U-Value, number of panes, fill, coating, etc. to use for each window?

YES NO

M D O U N

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

7B = Daylighting other than Windows

- Does the design of your building take advantage of daylighting options other than windows such as skylights?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

7C = Awnings, Overhangs, Shading

- Will you incorporate overhangs for your windows to minimize solar gain during the hot months?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

7

Exterior Building Components (con't)

7D = Exterior Doors

- Do you know the placement and number of exterior doors you will use on your structure? YES NO

- Have you considered code compliance, security, insulating factors, type, glazing, maintenance and aesthetics in your exterior door placements? M D O U N

- Are your exterior doors intended to:
 - Keep people out? M D O U N

 - Be decorative?

 - A combination of both?

- Will your exterior doors be easily accessible? M D O U N

- Are your exterior doors sheltered from the elements, but not too sheltered and hard to see? M D O U N

- Will there be an additional 'storm' door in use on your exterior doors? M D O U N

- Will your exterior doors be exposed to excessive heat or cold? YES NO

COMMENTS:

7E = Exterior Skin

- Have you determined what kind of 'exterior skin' the building will have? YES NO

- Will the building be subjected to damaging storms? YES NO

- Are the color(s) of the exterior of the building aesthetically pleasing? YES NO

- Do the color(s) of the exterior of the building increase heating or cooling problems? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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7

Exterior Building Components (con't)

7F = Drainage Planes

- Is there a drainage plane to protect your structure from rot, mold, etc. M D O U N

COMMENTS:

7G = Exterior Extras

- Are shutters important to you? YES NO
 - Working shutters to protect your windows from damaging storms? M D O U N
 - Decorative shutters? M D O U N
- Will you have space between the ground and a porch or deck that you want to have covered? M D O U N
 - Will you do that with lattice or plants or does it need to be enclosed? M D O U N
- If you aren't designing a garage as part of your primary structure, do you want a car port to park under that is situated close to your home or attached to it? M D O U N
- If you have planned for a garage, will it accommodate yard maintenance items and gardening tools or do you need to consider a shed that is either attached to the house or not? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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8 Roofing

M D O U N

- Do you want to leave the choice of your roofing system to your designer? M D O U N

- Is your roofing subcontractor educated in green building materials and techniques? YES NO
- Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional roofing materials/techniques vs. the green building materials/techniques you plan to use? M D O U N

- Do you have a preference between trusses, rafters, SIPs, or another type of energy efficient roof system? M D O U N

- Do you have a preferred style of roof? _____
- Will your roof add to or subtract from heat gain in your building? _____
- Have you made drainage considerations? M D O U N
- Will your roof need to be vented? M D O U N
- What kind of maintenance will your roof require? _____
- If you are using a gutter system for drainage, have you considered a rainwater catchment system? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8A = Trusses and Framing

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8B = Types of Roof Designs

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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8 Roofing (con't)

8C = Substrate, Decking, Laminates M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8D = Drainage, Flashing, Water-Proofing Products M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8E = Membrane M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8F = Exterior Roofing Products M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8G = Roof Venting Choices M D O U N

COMMENTS:

8H = Rainwater Catchment Systems M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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9 Electrical

M D O U N

9A = Choosing your Contractor

- Do you want to leave the choice of your electrical contractor to your Builder or General Contractor? M D O U N
- Is it important to you that your electrical contractor have experience with green building techniques, renewable energy production and products? M D O U N
- Are you willing or able to direct or hire someone else to direct electrical people who don't have experience with green building techniques? M D O U N
- Can you specify that your electrician install all these wires/cables at the time of construction or do you have the various subcontractors add them separately? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

9B = Reducing your Load

- Have you reduced your load as much as possible? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

9C = Distribution System

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

9D = Conduit System

- Is your wiring easy to access or alter in the future? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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9 Electrical (con't)

9E = Safety

- Are you incorporating whole house safety features? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

9F = Renewable Energy Production

- Are you making your home Solar and/or Renewable Energy Ready? M D O U N

- What will your site allow: M D O U N

Wind?

Solar?

Hydro?

- What can you afford?

- What is the best return for your investment?

- What are you willing to change or do without to take advantage of renewable energy?

- Will you be storing excess energy and/or 'selling it back' to the grid? M D O U N

- Is Net Metering available in your area? YES NO

COMMENTS:



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10 Plumbing

M D O U N

10A = Primary Water Source

- Do you have a choice for your primary water source? YES NO
- Are you required to hook your building into a public water system? YES NO
- Will your primary water source be piped directly into their home from an urban or rural source? M D O U N
- Is it possible or feasible to drill a well at your building site? M D O U N
- Is there a clean water source on your site? YES NO
- Are you concerned with depletion of aquifers? M D O U N
- Are you concerned about contaminated water? M D O U N
- If you must have water trucked in, where will you situate your cistern? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

10B = Gray Water

- Do your local codes allow for a gray water system? YES NO

COMMENTS:

10C = Sewer, Septic Systems

- Are you required to hook your building into a municipal sewer system? YES NO
- What type of sewer system is appropriate and desirable for your building site? M D O U N
- Are you interested in pursuing environmental sewage treatment options? M D O U N



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

10 Plumbing (con't)

10C = Sewer, Septic Systems (con't)

- Is your plumber familiar with green (alternative) sewer systems? YES NO
- Who will maintain your sewer system? _____

COMMENTS:

10D = Toilets

- Have you determined how many toilets are necessary for your building? YES NO
- Are composting toilets an option? M D O U N
- Have you considered using waterless urinals? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

10E = Water Piping

- Will you leave the choice of piping to your plumber? M D O U N
- Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional plumbing materials/techniques vs. the green plumbing materials/techniques you want to use? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

10F = Water Pumps

- Will you need a water pump? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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10 Plumbing (con't)

10G = Filters

What kind of filtration system will you use?

YES NO

COMMENTS:

10H = Water Purification

Will you install a water purification system?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

10I = Other Plumbing Related Items

Will you use fixtures and faucets that conserve water?

M D O U N

Will you need a water softening/conditioning system?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

11 Water Heating and Use

M D O U N

11A = Water Heaters

Will your water heating system be:

- electric, YES NO
- natural gas, YES NO
- solar assisted YES NO
- 100% solar? YES NO

Have you determined the quantity of heated water your facility will require? _____

Do you prefer tankless water heaters? _____

M D O U N

COMMENTS: _____

11B = Solar Assisted Water Heating

M D O U N

COMMENTS: _____

11C = Water Tank Insulating Blanket and Low Flow Fixtures

Do you have extra insulation for your water heater? _____

M D O U N

COMMENTS: _____

11D = Rainwater Storage Systems

Are you interested in incorporating a rainwater storage system? _____

M D O U N

COMMENTS: _____



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11 Water Heating and Use (con't)

11E = Drip Irrigation, Watering Systems

Does your landscaping require an irrigation system? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

11F = Water Conserving Appliances

Have you researched water conserving appliances? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

11G = Sinks, Bathtubs, Showers

When choosing your sinks, bathtubs and shower products, have you looked for local and/or recycled materials? M D O U N

Are there safety bars and ADA compliance aspects to your bathing facilities? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

11H = Pools

Have you considered energy saving features for swimming pools? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

11I = Spas, Hot Tubs

Have you considered energy saving features for spas and hot tubs? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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12 Heating and Cooling

M D O U N

12A = Basic Heating, Cooling, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) System Information

COMMENTS:

12B = Choosing an HVAC Contractor

- Do you want to leave the choice of your HVAC contractor to your Builder or General Contractor? M D O U N

- Is it important to you that your HVAC contractor have experience working with Green Building Techniques? M D O U N

- Does your HVAC contractor work with an Energy Rating Company? M D O U N

- Do they know how to appropriately size your equipment based on your home design instead of assuming conventional calculations? M D O U N

- Does your HVAC contractor have experience with extremely energy efficient structures? M D O U N

- Are you planning to have your HVAC installation commissioned? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

12C = Fuel Source

- What fuel choices do you have? _____

COMMENTS:



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12 Heating and Cooling (con't)

12D = Heating Equipment

- Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional heating and cooling techniques vs. the green techniques you plan to use? M D O U N

- What type of heating system(s) do you prefer? _____

 - Is there an ENERGY STAR® version available? YES NO
 - Is there an alternative technology that uses minimal energy? YES NO

COMMENTS:

12E = Cooling Equipment

- What type of cooling system(s) do you prefer? _____

 - Is there an ENERGY STAR® version available? YES NO
 - Is there an alternative technology that uses minimal energy? YES NO
 - Is there an environmentally-friendly refrigerant? YES NO

COMMENTS:

12F = Zones

- Are you interested in zone systems? M D O U N
- Does your design call for a whole house system or zone system? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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12 Heating and Cooling (con't)

12G = Ductwork

- | | | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will your building require ductwork? | <input type="checkbox"/> M | <input type="checkbox"/> D | <input type="checkbox"/> O | <input type="checkbox"/> U | <input type="checkbox"/> N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Does your HVAC contractor keep the registers covered and clean during construction and/or have the ductwork cleaned before use? | <input type="checkbox"/> M | <input type="checkbox"/> D | <input type="checkbox"/> O | <input type="checkbox"/> U | <input type="checkbox"/> N |

COMMENTS:

12H = Registers

- | | |
|---|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Where will you place registers (if using a duct system)? | _____ |
| | _____ |

COMMENTS:



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13 Ventilation

M D O U N

13A = Controlled vs. Natural Ventilation or Uncontrolled Ventilation

- Does your building allow for both natural and controlled ventilation? M D O U N
- What type of attic ventilation is appropriate for your building? _____

COMMENTS:

13B = Heat or Energy Recovery Ventilators

- Will your building use an HRV or ERV system? M D O U N
- Will you have a professional size the HRV/ERV? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

13C = Filters

- What kind of filters will you use? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

13D = Exhaust Only Fans

- Where will you locate exhaust fans? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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13 Ventilation (con't)

13E = High Power Fans

Will you include a whole house fan (or something similar)?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

13F = Additional Venting Options

What other venting options does your building design call for?

M D O U N

If you have a fireplace, wood stove, etc. will you incorporate a combustion air supply system?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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14 Insulation

M D O U N

What type and what R-Value should be installed in your building?

Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional insulation materials vs. the green materials you plan to use?

M D O U N

How much insulation do you need in a given application (per code or per design)?

What is the environmental factor of your insulation

M D O U N

Is it hazardous during installation or removal?

YES NO

Is it environmentally friendly, biodegradable or recyclable?

YES NO

What are the codes regarding insulation in your area?

Do you want to qualify for any programs such as ENERGY STAR®?

M D O U N

Are you interested in tax credits (if they are available)?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14A = Commonly Used Wall and Attic Types

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14B = Older or Less Common Wall and Attic Types

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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14 Insulation (con't)

14C = Innovative and New Wall and Attic Types M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14D = Sheathing

Are you in a region where a continuous barrier will benefit your structure? M D O U N

Will you incorporate house wrap, water barriers, drainage planes? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14E = Vapor Barriers/Retarders M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14F = Foundation Insulation

Do you plan to insulate your foundation? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14G = How much... Wall Insulation? Attic Insulation? Foundation Insulation?

COMMENTS: M D O U N



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14 Insulation (con't)

14H = Water Pipe Insulation

- Will your water pipes be in conditioned or unconditioned space?
- Will your pipes be in a crawl space or attic?
- What insulation strategy should you employ if your pipes are in an attic or crawl space?
- How much pipe needs to be insulated?
- Should you add a reflective and/or vapor barrier as well?
- Are your pipes in an exterior wall and in danger of freezing?
- Should you use electrical heat tape to prevent your pipes from freezing?

YES NO

M D O U N

YES NO

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14I = Water Heater Insulation

- Will your water heater be in conditioned or unconditioned space?
- Will you insulate your water heater?
- Do you understand how to insulate a natural gas/propane water heater differently than an electric model?

YES NO

YES NO

COMMENTS:



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14 Insulation (con't)

14J = Window/Glass Door Insulation

Are the windows energy efficient enough to need no additional insulation or window treatments? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

14K = Insulation Recommendations for Older Buildings

COMMENTS: M D O U N



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15 Interior Building Materials (con't)

15E = Interior Doors

- Have you considered code compliance, security, insulating factors, type, glazing, maintenance and aesthetics in your interior door placements? M D O U N

- Is safety and security the primary issue when choosing an interior door? M D O U N

- Do you want total privacy (including locks) from your interior doors? M D O U N

- Do you intend to use an interior door to restrict air movement between rooms? M D O U N

- Do you simply want to use an interior door to restrict the view between one room and another? M D O U N

- Do you want an interior door to keep children or pets out of a specific room, but want visual or auditory access to the room? M D O U N

- Have you decided if each interior door in a given location should swing in or out, to the left or right? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

15F = Built-ins

- Does your building design call for built-in components? M D O U N

- Have you discussed insulation and sealing requirements for built-ins with your contractor? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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16 Flooring

M D O U N

Have you done a cost benefit analysis/comparison of traditional flooring materials vs. the green materials you plan to use? M D O U N

Are you willing to research and possibly pay more for the sustainable flooring choices available? M D O U N

Is Indoor Air Quality important to you? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16A = Flooring Substrate M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16B = Carpeting M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16C = Area Rugs M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16D = Wood Flooring M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16E = Wood Substitute Flooring M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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16 Flooring (con't)

16F = Glass, Ceramic, Stone, Concrete M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16G = Linoleum M D O U N

COMMENTS:

16H = Other Flooring M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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17 Indoor Air Quality

M D O U N

- Will you leave the choice of interior finish materials to your contractor? M D O U N

- Is it important to you that your finishing contractor have experience working with Green Building Techniques? M D O U N

- Will you be participating in the finish work on your building? M D O U N

- Is your building well ventilated? M D O U N

- Are you, or others who will live in or use your building, sensitive to chemicals, allergens, pollution? M D O U N

- Are you willing to invest additional research (and possibly additional money) into using products that minimize exposure to products that cause problems? M D O U N

- Are you willing to pay for cleaning during construction and on-going building maintenance to reduce pollutants? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17A = Paint, Stain M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17B = Wood Finishes M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17C = Sealants, Coatings M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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17 Indoor Air Quality (con't)

17D = Petroleum-Free Caulks, Adhesives, Solvents M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17E = Interior Wood and Panel Products M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17F = Cabinetry, Counter-Tops M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17G = Solvents for Exposed OSB, Particle Board, MDF M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17H = Closets and Storage M D O U N

COMMENTS:

17I = Whole House Vacuum M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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18 Lighting

M D O U N

18A = General Types of Lighting

- Where do you need artificial light? _____
- In each situation/location where artificial light is required, how bright does the light need to be? _____
- Are you including an emergency lighting system with backup batteries? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

18B = Lighting Specifications

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

18C = Types of Light Bulbs

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

18D = Lighting Technologies/Interior

- Have you designed your building to take advantage of natural daylighting? M D O U N
- Is there an ENERGY STAR® version of the light available? YES NO
- Is there an alternative lighting technology that uses less energy? YES NO

COMMENTS:



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19 Appliances

M D O U N

19A = Resource Efficiency

- Is there an ENERGY STAR® version available? YES NO
- What appliances (large or small) do you consider a necessity? _____
- What appliances (large or small) do you consider a luxury? _____
- What luxury appliances can you live without? _____
- What luxury appliances do you want if you can afford them? _____
- Is there an alternative that uses minimal energy? YES NO
- Must your appliances be brand new or are you open to recycled, refurbished items? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

19B = Kitchen

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

19C = Bathroom

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

19D = Laundry

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

19 Appliances (con't)

19E = Entertainment

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

19F = Office

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

19G = Home and Garden

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

20 Energy Alternatives

M D O U N

20A = Solar Siting, Solar Ready

- Is the side of your house that faces the sun during the day clear of obstructions (i.e. trees, hi-rise buildings)? M D O U N

- Will you be adding alternative energy systems (some or all) during the construction of your home or plan to do it at a later date? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

20B = Solar Systems - Passive vs. Active

- Are you including the power of the sun in your building design (i.e. passive solar)? M D O U N

- What will your site allow:
 - Solar? M D O U N
 - Wind? M D O U N
 - Hydro? M D O U N

- What can you afford? M D O U N

- What is the best return for your investment? M D O U N

- What are you willing to change or do without to take advantage of renewable energy? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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20 Energy Alternatives (con't)

20C = *Passive Solar*

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

20D = *Passive Thermal Storage*

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

20E = *Active Solar Systems - Thermal*

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

20F = *Solar Domestic Hot Water*

If you include a solar domestic hot water system:

M D O U N

How much water will you need to heat daily?

What type of system do you want:
drain-down, drain-back or closed-loop?

Who will maintain your system?

COMMENTS:



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20 Energy Alternatives (con't)

20G = Battery Storage

- Will you be storing excess energy and/or 'selling it back' to the grid? YES NO
- If you include a battery storage system: M D O U N
 - How much electricity will you need to store? _____
 - How many batteries will it take to store the energy you need? _____
 - Where will you store your batteries? _____
 - Will you be using the electricity primarily in Direct Current (DC) or Alternating Current (AC) applications? _____
 - Who will maintain your system? _____

COMMENTS:

20H = Active Solar Photovoltaic System: Solar Electric

- If you are including photovoltaic system: M D O U N
 - Is there enough sunshine to justify the purchase and installation? YES NO
 - How much electric load do you expect to have daily? _____
 - Who will maintain your system? _____
 - Will the system be a ground mounted system? YES NO
 - Will the system be a building mounted system? YES NO

COMMENTS:



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20 Energy Alternatives (con't)

20I = Grid-Connected Net Metering

If you are considering selling electricity back (net metering):

M D O U N

Are you connected to the grid or do you plan to connect to the grid?

What are your states laws concerning net metering?

Does your local government allow for net metering?

YES NO

Does your local utility allow for net metering? If so, what are the rules and guidelines?

YES NO

Who will maintain your system?

COMMENTS:

20J = Wind Micro Turbine

If you are including a wind turbine system:

M D O U N

What zoning restrictions are there at your location?

Is there enough wind to justify the purchase and installation?

YES NO

How much electrical load do you expect to have daily?

Who will maintain your system?

How long is the warranty?

COMMENTS:



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INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

20 Energy Alternatives (con't)

20K = Hydro Power

- If you are including a micro hydro system:

<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N
--------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------

 - What zoning restrictions are there at your location? _____
 - Is there enough water running throughout the year to justify the purchase and installation?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
--------------------------	------------	--------------------------	-----------
 - How much electrical load do you expect to have daily? _____
 - Who will maintain your system? _____

COMMENTS:

20L = Fuel Cell

- If you are including a fuel cell system:

<input type="checkbox"/>	M <input type="checkbox"/>	D <input type="checkbox"/>	O <input type="checkbox"/>	U <input type="checkbox"/>	N
--------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	----------

 - What zoning restrictions are there at your location? _____
 - What is the source of your hydrogen? _____
 - Will your system be the open type?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
--------------------------	------------	--------------------------	-----------
 - Will your system be the closed type?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
--------------------------	------------	--------------------------	-----------
 - How much electrical load do you expect to have daily? _____
 - Who will maintain your system? _____

COMMENTS:



Green Building Decision Kit : WORKBOOK

INTEREST LEVEL LEGEND: M=Mandatory D=Desirable O=Optional U=Unlikely N=Not Interested

21 Landscaping

M D O U N

21A = Conventional vs. Environmental-Focus

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21B = Personal vs. Professional

- Will you do your own landscaping? M D O U N
- Will you hire a professional landscaper? M D O U N
- Is it important to you that your landscaper have experience working with native/natural species and techniques? M D O U N
- Will you plan to complete your landscaping in a single phase? M D O U N
- Will you make landscaping an ongoing project? M D O U N
- Are you interested in using an environmental focus in your landscaping? M D O U N
- Have you researched your landscaper? YES NO
 - How long has the company been in business? _____
 - How many employees do they have and how many of them will be working on your job? _____
 - What languages do they speak (very important that you are able to communicate clearly with the lead contractor and/or employees)? _____
 - What services do they provide and what are their specialties? _____
 - What are their hours of business and the best time to reach them (get their contact information)? _____



Green Building Decision Kit : WORKBOOK

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21 Landscaping (con't)

21B = Personal vs. Professional (con't)

- What professional affiliations do they belong to (i.e. BBB, national or state landscaping associations, etc)? _____
- Are they licensed? YES NO
- Are they insured? YES NO
- What guarantees do they have, what specifically is covered and the length of the guarantee? _____
- Do they provide references? YES NO
- Do they provide a contract? YES NO
- Do they offer ongoing maintenance? YES NO

COMMENTS:

21C = Site Considerations

- Can you work with your land the way it is to achieve the landscaping results you desire? M D O U N
- Are you willing to adjust your expectations to minimize disruptions to your land? M D O U N
- Is it necessary to 'sculpt' your land to achieve the results you desire? M D O U N
- Are there problems beyond aesthetics that need to be addressed? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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21 Landscaping (con't)

21D = Water Issues

- Is water runoff or retention an issue for your site? M D O U N
- Is there already, or do you plan to add, a water feature (such as a pond or lake)? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21E = Natural/Native Plants

- Are you interested in incorporating natural/native plants in your landscaping? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21F = Existing Foliage, Trees

- Are there specific plants or trees on your site before construction that you want to keep? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21G = Xeriscape®, Edible Landscaping and Gardens

- Are you interested in using the Xeriscape® method of landscaping? M D O U N
- Do you plan to grow your own food? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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21 Landscaping (con't)

21H = Dry Climate

- Is there a shortage of water for landscaping? YES NO
- Do you plan to address water issues by planting drought-tolerant or natural/native species? M D O U N
- Do you plan to irrigate? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21I = Efficient Watering Systems

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

21J = Other Landscaping Considerations

- Will you include a composting area? M D O U N
- Will you include a windbreak? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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23 ▶ Outbuildings

M D O U N

23A = Outbuildings (Section 23)

- Are you concerned about gas and other chemical fumes relating to your vehicles entering your home? YES NO
- Will you be heating and cooling your garage? M D O U N
- Is it important for you to have access to your vehicle without going outside? M D O U N
- Will you be storing more than your vehicles in the garage? M D O U N
- Will your garage also function as a workshop or something else? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

23B = Workshop, Hobby Shop

- Do you use flammable or combustible products in your workshop? M D O U N
- Do you need high voltage electricity for your workshop? M D O U N
- Will you be heating and cooling your workshop? M D O U N
- Is it important for you to have access to your workshop without going outside? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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23 Outbuildings (con't)

23C = Guest Quarters

- Do the guests you entertain require overnight or extended stay accommodations? M D O U N
- Is your privacy important to you? M D O U N
- Is there a possibility that a relative or friend may need to stay with you for an extended amount of time? M D O U N
- Do you need permanent accommodations instead of or in addition to guest quarters? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

23D = Heat Producing Exterior Furnace

- Do you want to use a separate building to house an exterior furnace? M D O U N
- Are there zoning rules in your area about exterior furnaces? YES NO
- Are you subject to neighborhood covenants that restrict your ability to put other outbuildings in your yard? YES NO
- Are you willing to expend the effort to be sure the furnace has enough fuel at all times? YES NO
- Are you willing to maintain your exterior furnace yourself? M D O U N
- Will you hire someone else to maintain your exterior furnace? M D O U N
- Do you have a place and process to legally dispose of or reuse the waste produced by the furnace? _____

COMMENTS:



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23 ▶ Outbuildings (con't)

23E = Battery Storage Building

Are you interested in maintaining your battery storage in a building separate from your living space?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

23F = Shed

Will you need one or more sheds for storage?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:

23G = Larger Buildings, Barns, Specialty Buildings

Do you need a barn or other specialty building?

M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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24 Other Decisions

M D O U N

24A = Natural Pest Control

How will you approach pest control:

- Use poison or other kill methods yourself? M D O U N
- Hire a professional to use poison or other kill methods? M D O U N
- Use humane methods yourself? M D O U N
- Hire a professional to use humane methods? M D O U N
- Adapt sustainable habits that discourage unwanted pests? M D O U N
- Encourage beneficial insects and animals to cohabitate with you? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

24B = Natural Habitat

Will you consider the habitat of beneficial creatures:

- Minimize disruption of habitats during the building and landscaping processes? M D O U N
- Disregard the habitats of non-humans? M D O U N
- Add natural habitats that aren't too much trouble? M D O U N
- Encourage bats, birds, bees to 'move in' using houses, feeders, water features, etc.? M D O U N
- Incorporate natural habitats into your landscaping? M D O U N
- Create a mutually beneficial human and non-human habitat? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



Green Building Decision Kit : WORKBOOK

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24 Other Decisions (con't)

24C = Awareness, Lifestyle

- | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Are you likely to make adjustments to your past lifestyle due to the fact that you have built a green building: | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make no changes to your current lifestyle? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open to making adjustments in the area that prompted you to build a green structure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Open to making adjustments in other areas that you've learned about while building a green structure? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Consciously make changes to be mindful of your effect on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Live your life as an example to others regarding the effect humans have on the environment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Promote your eco-effective lifestyle? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:

24D = Building Owner's Manual

- | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Will you compile a system and maintain your green building in a sustainable fashion: | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Build a totally maintenance-free building? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain your building yourself, but don't want to spend much money to do it? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain your building yourself to reap the benefit of your investment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hire a service to maintain your building to reap the benefit of your investment? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain your building and set aside extra money yearly to expand its value? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M <input type="checkbox"/> | D <input type="checkbox"/> | O <input type="checkbox"/> | U <input type="checkbox"/> | N <input type="checkbox"/> |

COMMENTS:



Green Building Decision Kit : WORKBOOK

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24 Other Decisions (con't)

24E = Innovative Design

- Are you interested in going above and beyond green building to using cutting edge practices and products: M D O U N
- Not interested in experimental things? _____
- Interested in incorporating things that have been tried and tested? _____
- Like to beta test new methods and/or products in your building? _____
- Want to go all the way with innovative design? M D O U N

COMMENTS:

24F = Green Building Certification, Green Tags

- Are you interested in having your green building certified? M D O U N
- Has your zoning authority incorporated a green certification process? YES NO
- Is there a regional, independent organization that has a green certification process? YES NO
- Does your architect, or other member of your design team, know of a certification process? YES NO
- Did you know there are incentives for building a structure that is highly energy efficient? YES NO
- Is someone on your design team familiar with LEED® for commercial buildings or LEED® for homes? YES NO
- Is there a LEED® facilitator in your area? YES NO
- Do you want to offset your fossil fuel energy use with Green Tags if you are not able to include renewable energy generation at your site? M D O U N

COMMENTS:



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24 Other Decisions (con't)

24G = Energy Rating Incentives

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is someone on your design team familiar with ENERGY STAR® for commercial buildings or homes? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | O | <input type="checkbox"/> | U | <input type="checkbox"/> | N |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Is there an energy rating company in your area that can test your building to determine if it meets the necessary qualifications to achieve incentives? | <input type="checkbox"/> | M | <input type="checkbox"/> | D | <input type="checkbox"/> | O | <input type="checkbox"/> | U | <input type="checkbox"/> | N |

COMMENTS: