



## Veridian Village at HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

### **Veridian Village at Hampshire College – Environmentally Responsible and Green Design**

**Good for the environment... good for homeowners.**

**Recycle. Reduce. Reuse.**

Veridian Village is designed and constructed to achieve or exceed the Silver standard of the National Association of Home Builders' Green Building Guidelines<sup>i</sup>. The following is a list of some of the environmentally responsible and green design features.

#### **1. Construction**

- Modular building methods reduce waste generated on site
- On-site framing minimizes waste
- On-site recycling during construction
- Purchase locally produced materials to reduce transport energy costs and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

#### **2. Materials**

- Recycled construction materials, such as reclaimed lumber
- Cellulose wall insulation made from recycled paper fiber has excellent thermal performance
- Low VOC paints, carpets, and sealants
- "Green Label" carpet, carpet pad and floor covering adhesives from Carpet and Rug Institute's Indoor Air Quality Testing program<sup>ii</sup>. Carpets are also California Gold Certified<sup>iii</sup> and SCS Sustainable Choice Certified<sup>iv</sup>.
- Bamboo flooring in kitchen and living areas and cork flooring in bath and laundry rooms. Both materials come from rapidly renewable tree species. Cork is post-industrial recycled material from the wine bottle stopper industry.
- Ceramic bath tiles made with over 40% recycled material.
- Upgrade kitchen and bath countertops –100% recycled glass material called Icestone<sup>v</sup> are Cradle to Cradle certified<sup>vi</sup>
- Formaldehyde free cabinets
- No vinyl siding because manufacture of vinyl is harmful to the environment

#### **3. Mechanical Systems**

- Low leakage building envelope and HVAC system
- Heat traps on all cold and hot water lines
- Solar water heating system is an optional upgrade in town homes
- Energy Star<sup>vii</sup> labeled windows and appliances
- Compact fluorescent light bulbs and occupancy sensors for lighting controls
- Dual flush toilets
- Low flow shower heads and faucets

#### **4. Indoor Environmental Air Quality**

- Tightly sealed doors between living areas and garages and living areas and common hallways
- In the 24-unit building, air pressure in common hallways is greater than air pressure in the units, to keep air from flowing out of the units and into the hall

#### **5. Site Design/Landscaping**

- Bicycle racks and pedestrian walkways
- Easy access to local public transportation
- Household recycling
- Shade trees to help reduce the energy used to cool homes
- Rain gardens and vegetated swales manage storm water run-off, drastically reducing use of underground pipe systems and maintaining a more natural flow of storm water on the site
- Pesticides will not be used on lawns
- Water for community garden is harvested from a rainwater collection system
- Indigenous, drought resistant low water plantings
- Minimized soil and slope disturbance
- Waste management plan on job site to recycle material and minimize waste

#### **6. Wildlife and Nature Preservation**

- 32.4 acres undeveloped and protected under a permanent conservation restriction
- Low fences protect surrounding wood turtle habitat
- Design and construction preserves surrounding wetlands and maintains almost all original tree cover
- New culvert road crossing to restore and enhance stream flow and banks
- In conjunction with Veridian Village's college connected outreach programs, homeowners can participate in projects developed and implemented in partnership with the Town, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. These research, restoration, and maintenance projects will enhance environmental awareness and understanding and improve the body of knowledge regarding habitat protection and wildlife behavior.

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<sup>i</sup> <http://www.nahb.org/generic.aspx?genericContentID=56077>

<sup>ii</sup> <http://www.carpet-rug.org/commercial-customers/green-building-and-the-environment/green-label-plus/index.cfm>

<sup>iii</sup> <http://www.green.ca.gov/EPP/standards.htm>

<sup>iv</sup> <http://www.scs-certified.com/sustainablechoice/>

<sup>v</sup> <http://www.icestone.biz/new/>

<sup>vi</sup> <http://mbdc.com/docs/CertificationCriteria.pdf>

<sup>vii</sup> <http://www.energystar.gov/>