

This article appeared in the following media:

*Collinsville Herald
Granite City Press-Record
Monroe County Clarion
St. Clair County Journal
February 3, 2010*

*St. Louis Post-Dispatch New Home Folio
St. Charles Journal
Wentzville Journal
January 31, 2010*

201
BUILDING YOUR NEXT HOME

GREEN MACHINE

100th Home Verified "Green"
by Home Builders Association: Milestone
Shows Consumer Interest in Green Homes



SEAN FLOWER
President, Home Builders
Association of St. Louis &
Eastern Missouri

THE HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION (HBA) of St. Louis and Eastern Missouri recently verified the 100th green home in its voluntary "Green Building Initiative - Home Verification Program." The 100th home was built by C.F. Vatterott Construction Company in the City of St. Louis and earned the bronze level designation.

All builders must score a minimum number of points in each of the seven critical areas noted below in order for their homes to be verified at the bronze, silver or gold levels:

Energy efficiency is all about choosing insulation, correctly sizing the heating and air-conditioning equipment as well as installing efficient lighting, refrigerators, dishwashers, hot water heaters and other appliances. Energy efficiency may also include solar and wind turbine options.

Water efficiency may include the use of aerators on fixtures, efficient washing machines or even water-conserving landscaping techniques.

Resource efficiency measures the green builder's use of recycled materials and how the home's construction techniques enhance overall durability.

Special steps are also taken to reduce and manage construction waste effectively.

Lot and site development looks at how the home is situated. Is it protected from prevailing winds? Does it take advantage of the sun's light and energy to conserve natural resources?

Indoor environmental quality means the air is circulated well throughout the home while moisture and pollutants are minimized through filtration and product choices.

Global impact for each home is measured when the materials used to construct it are emitting fewer harmful chemicals, using less energy during construction and coming from local and/or renewable sources.

Homeowner education is the final element of the Green Building process. Correct operation and maintenance of a new home is essential to keeping it green for the long haul.

"Our local green building initiative is one of the most successful in the country, showing that green building is a trend that is here to stay. Consumers are choosing green when they see the rewards in lower utility payments," said Matt Belcher, chairman of the HBA's Green Building Council.

The HBA bases its Green Building Initiative - Home Verification Program on the National Association of Home Builders' Model Green Home Building

ABOVE: C.F. Vatterott Construction Co. is the builder of the 100th green home verified "green" by the Home Builders Association of St. Louis & Eastern Missouri (HBA) as part of its voluntary "Green Building Initiative - Home Verification Program." The home is located at 7221 Field Avenue in the Boulevard Heights neighborhood in the city of St. Louis. The HBA's Green Building Program is one of the most successful in the nation.

Guidelines. For more information about the HBA's Green Building Initiative - Home Verification Program, go to www.stlgreenbuilding.com.

See more on STLtoday.com/folio-online