

LIVING WISELY » LIVING WELL

# natural

CASH IN ON  
**GREEN TAX BREAKS**  
WHILE YOU CAN

# HOME

CONNECT  
YOUR  
HOME TO  
**NATURE**

**GREENING  
A HOME**  
STEP BY STEP

**GORGEOUS  
WINDOWS CAN  
SAVE YOU MONEY**

[www.NaturalHomeMagazine.com](http://www.NaturalHomeMagazine.com)

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**25** WAYS TO MAKE  
YOUR HOME  
**CARBON NEUTRAL**

# Your Green Home of the Future

The standard for green home building just got higher—and the magic number is zero. The LivingHomes model house, built in Santa Monica, California, is a zero-energy, zero-carbon, zero-waste, zero-water and zero-emissions residence—the first of its kind. The home is also the first to receive the U.S. Green Building Council's highest LEED for Homes rating: Platinum. (LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). Here's a sneak peak at the green home of tomorrow. [www.LivingHomes.us](http://www.LivingHomes.us)

The home is located on an infill site that was minimally disturbed during construction. It's within walking distance of public transportation, schools, businesses, parks and the beach.

The living roof garden reduces stormwater runoff, helps cool the home and provides growing space for vegetables.

Rainwater harvesting and graywater systems collect and recycle water for landscape irrigation.

Solar panels convert the sun's energy to electricity without pollution or energy bills. A rooftop solar water-heating system drives the radiant heating system.

Organic landscaping uses native and drought-tolerant plants to minimize water demand. Paving materials are water permeable.



LIVINGHOMES (C.J. BERG/SUNSHINE DIVIS)



Reclaimed or Forest Stewardship Council-certified wood warms the space.

Radiant in-floor heating is more cost effective than forced-air heating. It's healthier because it doesn't recirculate dust and pollen.

Thermal, high-performance windows allow in natural light and minimize energy loss. Hidden blinds offer privacy.

Built-in furniture and moveable walls can be reconfigured for flexible spaces.

Energy Star and water-saving appliances are used throughout. Counters are made of recycled-content Paperstone.

To reduce indoor air pollution, low-VOC and formaldehyde-free materials, paints and finishes are used.