

# GREEN MLS FEATURES

When you are entering a new residential listing in Paragon, check out these additional FEATURES to help promote your listings.

1. **LEED Certified**—check this website for more information. LEED certification has been around for commercial buildings for some time, but now they are working on incorporating similar standards into residential properties. New and existing construction may qualify if they meet rigorous standards. [www.usgbc.org/leed/homes](http://www.usgbc.org/leed/homes) Pilot program started in August 2005/expected to launch summer 2007
2. **EnergyStar (Qualified)**—[http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new\\_homes.hm\\_index](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=new_homes.hm_index) ENERGY STAR qualified homes meet strict guidelines for energy efficiency set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
3. **ICF—Insulated Concrete Forms**—a number of products are on the market. You may have seen some of the “Styrofoam” houses and commercial buildings going up around town. They start with a pre-made form, are assembled and then filled with rebar and concrete. There are also products made with concrete and wood fiber instead of Styrofoam. Dow makes pre-cast panels that are erected on site—concrete front and back with foam in the center.  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insulating\\_concrete\\_form](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Insulating_concrete_form)
4. **Structural Insulated Panels**—Also known as SIPS. SIPS, are a composite [building material](#). They consist of an insulating layer of rigid core sandwiched between two layers of structural board. <http://www.sips.org/>
5. **Straw Bale Construction**— [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Straw-bale\\_construction](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Straw-bale_construction) Straw-bale construction is a [building](#) method that uses [bales of straw](#) (commonly wheat, rice, rye and oats straw) as structural elements, [building insulation](#), or both
6. **Earth Sheltered**—<http://www.earthshelteredhome.com/>
7. **Solar Envelope**—[http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your\\_home/designing\\_remodeling/index.cfm/mytopic=10250](http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/designing_remodeling/index.cfm/mytopic=10250)
8. **Passive Solar**—[http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your\\_home/designing\\_remodeling/index.cfm/mytopic=10250](http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumer/your_home/designing_remodeling/index.cfm/mytopic=10250)
9. **Photovoltaic—Solar Panels**—A solar panel is a set of solar photovoltaic [modules](#) electrically connected and mounted on a supporting structure. A photovoltaic module is a packaged, connected assembly of [solar cells](#).  
[www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar\\_panel](http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_panel)
10. **Wind Generated Power**—Wind power is the conversion of [wind energy](#) into a useful form of energy, such as using [wind turbines](#) to make [electrical power](#), [windmills](#) for mechanical power, [windpumps](#) for [water pumping](#) or [drainage](#), or [sails](#) to propel [ships](#). [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind\\_power](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind_power)
11. **Thermal Mass**—Thermal mass is the ability of a material to absorb heat energy. A lot of heat energy is required to change the temperature of high density materials like concrete, bricks and tiles. They are therefore said to have high thermal mass. Lightweight materials such as timber have low thermal mass.  
<http://www.greenhouse.gov.au/yourhome/technical/fs17.htm>
12. **Reclaimed Lumber**—lumber that has been reclaimed from older homes, barns, bridges, etc.
13. **Certified Sustainable Forest Products**— Forest certification is designed to send a market signal to buyers that the products they purchase are derived from forests that are managed to particular environmental and social standards.
14. **Composite Deck Material**— decking and railing products are made from a combination of reclaimed wood and plastic--a number of products available including Trex, GeoDeck, TimberTech, etc.
15. **Fiber Cement Siding**— fiber-cement siding resists rotting or cracking and it resists damage from rain and hail. Is also available pre-finished, is non-combustible—some with Class 1 (A) Fire Rating.

16. **Spray Foam Insulation** –can also be found in a soy based product. Expands to fill areas that traditional fiberglass insulation doesn't. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spray\\_foams\\_\(insulation\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spray_foams_(insulation))
17. **Ground Source Heat Pump**—TDPUD was part of early implementation. A number of properties in the area use this. <http://www.igshpa.okstate.edu/>
18. **High Efficiency Furnace**— [http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=most\\_efficient.me\\_furnaces](http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=most_efficient.me_furnaces)
19. **Air to Air Heat Exchanger**— Remove stale indoor air and replace it with fresh, clean air from outdoors with an Air-to-Air Heat Exchanger. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heat\\_recovery\\_ventilation](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heat_recovery_ventilation)
20. **Low E Windows**— Low-emittance (Low-E) coating are microscopically thin, virtually invisible, metal or metallic oxide layers deposited on a window or skylight glazing surface primarily to reduce the U-factor by suppressing radiative heat flow. The principal mechanism of heat transfer in multilayer glazing is thermal radiation from a warm pane of glass to a cooler pane. Coating a glass surface with a low-emittance material and facing that coating into the gap between the glass layers blocks a significant amount of this radiant heat transfer, thus lowering the total heat flow through the window. Low-E coatings are transparent to visible light. Different types of Low-E coatings have been designed to allow for high solar gain, moderate solar gain, or low solar gain. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Low\\_emissivity](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Low_emissivity)
21. **Energy Star Appliances**— ENERGY STAR qualified appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10–50% less energy and water than standard models. [http://www.energystar.gov/certified-products/certified-products?c=products.pr\\_find\\_es\\_products](http://www.energystar.gov/certified-products/certified-products?c=products.pr_find_es_products)
22. **Recycled PET Carpeting**— PET carpet is manufactured with yarn created from reclaimed polyester resins of two-liter soda bottles and ketchup containers. Commonly known as Pop Bottle Carpet, recycled PET (polyethylene terephthalate) polyester carpet is uniquely strong and durable. Indeed, recycled PET has a higher melting point and higher density than nylon which give the carpet many superior characteristics. In general, they tend to be heavier, thicker and more luxurious than conventional nylon carpets. <http://www.mass.gov/anf/budget-taxes-and-procurement/procurement-info-and-res/procurement-prog-and-serv/epp-procurement-prog/green-products-and-serv/specific-epp-statewide-contracts/carpet-and-flooring-recycled-content.html>
23. **Low or No VOC paints**— alternative manufacturing techniques have allowed the development of low- and no-VOC paints that release no, or minimal VOC pollutants, and are virtually odor free. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volatile\\_organic\\_compound](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Volatile_organic_compound)
24. **Other—See Remarks**—We were limited to 24 entries, so this is the magic catch all for products that didn't fit into the initial list or for products/certifications yet to be introduced to the market.

Even more GREEN info available at [www.sigba.org](http://www.sigba.org)