



How Homeowners Can Preserve The Planet By Living In Leed-Certified Homes

Green homes are looking like the new black in the world of real estate—and Mother Nature has never been more pleased.

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Sustainability isn't just trending—it's here to stay. People often associate sustainability with fashion, automobiles and food, but home designers have been leading the sustainability charge since long before other industries threw their hats into the grass-lined ring.

It's no secret that our planet has seen better days. Luckily, a move that is good for both Mother Earth and for your pocket book is the sustainable building of LEED-certified homes. [Troon Pacific](#) CEO Greg Malin has been a trailblazing leader in building [LEED-certified homes](#)—or those which meet or exceed Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design sustainability benchmarks since 2008. Malin believes there's no reason a sustainable home can't be a show-stopper.

“When people are buying a beautiful and significant home—why can’t we make their carbon footprint smaller?” said Malin. “[Troon Pacific’s homes](#) are like a tree: beautiful to look at, clean for the air and good habitats for dwelling.”

If you were to walk past [one of the homes](#) Malin helped design, you would never guess it’s a LEED-certified home just from appearance. With the help of his late wife’s extraordinary eye for design and detail, Troon Pacific’s homes embody a sophisticated European sensibility that instantly attracts potential homebuyers to take a peek.

“My late wife, Charlotte, always wondered, ‘Why do homes always have to look like they’re green?’ or ‘Can’t we make a home that you can’t tell is the highest level of sustainability, yet is?’” said Malin.

While the interior and exterior design of Troon Pacific’s homes may entice people to tour [one of their properties](#), some of the most impressive features of the house aren’t necessarily visible to the eye. According to Malin, the architects and designers on his team are very serious about building a steady infrastructure—even going so far as to wrap clay around plumbing lines to reduce the noise acoustics throughout the house.

“We’re doing a lot of things you can’t see or have never been heard of,” said Malin. “We do our best to do everything we can to future-proof the house so we can deliver the highest-quality home that anyone’s ever lived in.”

Troon Pacific is all about embracing the *au naturel* approach. The company is dedicated to using [natural insulation materials](#) such as cellulose, mineral wool, silica, cork and agrifiber—which, believe it or not, works just as well as its chemical-infused alternative.

The builders and designers with Troon also incorporate health-promoting materials throughout the homes they construct. In collaboration with [Moore & Giles](#), Troon has created the world’s first [Declare-labeled](#), [Red List-Free](#) and [Cradle to Cradle-certified](#) leather, which is created through a biodegradable production process that only uses olive leaves and beeswax. Why live in a home that’s covered in chemicals when you can exist in one saturated with organic materials?

There’s nothing more refreshing than taking in a breath of clean air purified by the symbiotic structure of your home—and, according to Malin, his structures give you just that, so fresh that your body will thank you for it.

“We hosted an event at one of our LEED properties and an attendee came up to me and asked, ‘What did you do to the air in this house? I instantly felt better when I walked into this house,’” said Malin. “Our homes do so much for air quality and you feel it with every breath you take.”

Could LEED-certified construction be the future of homes? Malin definitely thinks so. While there are other competing alternatives in the industry, Malin believes nothing will measure up to a LEED house. Along with being at the forefront of this type of innovative home technology, Malin is pushing other developers to follow in his footsteps.

“We can’t rely on government regulations to make other developers do what we do,” said Malin. “I’ve been very proactive about making others aware of this amazing technology. If people see successful projects that incorporate great design and which leave behind a positive footprint, I believe they’ll follow suit.”

So, why is it so important that people make the switch to LEED-certified homes, especially in an era of significant ecological change? Because, according to Malin, “we need to.” Thanks to the discovery of new technology, there’s no reason all homes can’t be green and sustainable. Not only will investing in a LEED-certified home alter the future of our planet in a positive way, but it makes contractors and designers that much more responsible.

“People should invest in these homes because it’s a way to make contractors and designers more accountable for the quality control,” said Malin. “Due to all the third-party inspections and verification that goes into what we do, it makes them take a good hard look at the detail they’re putting into the homes. We don’t cut corners like other developers—we build them.”

The timeless yet contemporary homes that Troon Pacific constructs are one-of-a-kind and, in the words of Malin’s late wife, “can’t be put into a box.”

“She would tell me today that we don’t fit in a specific category—we’re far from mainstream,” said Malin. “That said, when it comes to accessibility, LEED-certified homes are for everyone.”