

Eastwood introduces new Green Home design

Those looking for an affordable home and those looking for a green home that meets Energy Star requirements often had to make different choices. Until now.

Eastwood Custom Homes has introduced a new home design called The Edison. This stick-built home features three bedrooms, two baths, an open floor plan, and a selling price starting at just \$77,400. And oh yes, with its insulated slab, insulated hot water pipes, compact fluorescent bulbs and the availability of a number of different Energy Star appliance packages, it is energy efficient and very green.

“We want to make this a home that anyone can live in and find very comfortable, while also appealing to consumers because of its environmentally conscious attributes,” said Eastwood CEO Bill Clous. “By incorporating everything from low-E windows to compact fluorescent lighting into the design, we’ve been able to keep the cost low to purchase and to own, while keeping the environmental value high.”

You like numbers? This ranch style home is built on an R10 insulated slab and utilizes 1-inch rigid foam and cellulose insulation in the 2X6 exterior walls for a total R value of 26. The ceiling’s thick bed of insulation offers a total R value of 49, and it offers 100 percent efficient heat with individual room thermostats.

If you are more interested in comfort than numbers, the inviting floor plan features a great room opening into the kitchen, while the master suite includes a large closet and private bathroom. The washer and dryer are conveniently located, and with the optional two-car garage there is the opportunity for additional storage space behind the entryway closet.

The company has completed construction on two Edison homes at its Crimson Ranch subdivision, located three miles south of Chum’s Corners, and plans to begin construction on two more shortly. The company is also building one at Bobbie’s Place west of Traverse City, and is looking to build others at additional Eastwood developments throughout the Grand Traverse area. Several clients are considering the design for homes on their own lots.

“We know the economy is challenging for many people right now,” Clous said. “We want to help those people who want to buy a new home be able to afford to do so. With the Edison and our Value-Max designs, we’re able to offer quality homes that are well within reach of many people who are currently renting and didn’t think they could afford to purchase a home with these attributes.”

The Value-Max series is another of the company's innovations. Its cost-effective design simplifies the building process, utilizing Eastwood's in-house wall construction plant, eliminating waste, and taking advantage of the company's purchasing power to keep costs as low as \$55 per square foot. And of course the Edison takes that concept one step further, keeping the home very affordable while making an even more concerted effort to keep the home green.

Those interested in the design may contact Eastwood at 929-4663 or log onto the company's website at EastwoodCustomHomes.com.

Eastwood Custom homes was established in 1977 by brothers Ron and Bill Clous. Since then, it has grown to become the area's largest residential construction company, having built over 1,100 homes. The company also offers complete commercial construction.