

LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN (LEED) :

The LEED program has been successful in the commercial building market. A pilot program in the county is being tested by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Transformations is recognized as a builder participating in the LEED for homes Pilot Demonstration, with a commitment to actively promoting the transformation of the mainstream home building industry toward more sustainable practices. The homes by Transformation in the Coppersmith Way Development are in line to achieve Silver and Gold certification. There are several categories in the LEED program:

- **The first is Location and Linkages**, and a credit point is attained by being next to a 250 acre green space as well as next to existing water roads.
- **The second category is Sustainable Sites** where clustering the homes to have 40% of the site undisturbed is a requirement. Here credit points are attained from additional mulch around the plantings, minimizing the landscaping water demand, using porous pavement in the driveways, having open swales and rain-gardens for storm water control (See LID practices), and non-toxic pest control.
- **The next category is Water Efficiency**. Transformations plans to install very high efficiency fixtures (toilets, showers, and faucets) to reduce the consumption of water, even toilets that are dual flush-that is a 1.6 gallon flush when needed and a 1.1 gallon flush for urine only.
- **Indoor Environmental Quality** is the next category. Here, fans are used to exhaust stale air from the bathrooms and provide needed make up air. Air filters are used to reduce pollutants inside the home, and a radon protection system is installed from below the slab to the roof.
- **Materials and Resources** is the next category that cover items such as materials efficient framing. Houses can be built with about 20% less wood by increasing the joist and stud spacing to 24" on center and having headers designs for actual loads of the wall. The wood is replaced by the high density cellulose, further increasing the efficiency of the home. Waste is recycled, wood, drywall, and carpet are separated into the different dumpsters and recycled, leaving only leftover material to go to the landfill or incinerator.
- **Energy and Atmosphere** includes the Energy Star Homes and the renewable energy component.
- **Homeowner Awareness** covers an owners manual and a walkthrough of the LEED home with the new owners.
- **Innovation and Design Process** is the latest category. Here credits are obtained for the low nitrogen septic tanks and deed restrictions in the use of pesticides, chemical fertilizers.

