



# ELEVATIONS<sup>LLC</sup>

BETTER LIVING FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW

RENOVATIONS • OUTDOOR LIVING • DESIGN/BUILD

## 5 Ways To Renovate Green

**1. Purchase ENERGY STAR rated appliances.** The average home spends about \$2,200 on energy bills every year. ENERGY STAR appliances incorporate advanced technologies that use 10–50% less energy and water than standard models. The money saved on your utility bills can more than make up for the cost of a more expensive but more efficient ENERGY STAR model.

**2. Use Green paint.** Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) paint comes in a wide variety of colors and is available in both interior and exterior grade. The use of low-VOC paint reduces toxins that cause allergy and chemical sensitivities, reduces contaminant concentrations in landfill, groundwater and the ozone, provides easy cleanup with soap and water and produces lower odor.

**3. Use eco-friendly building materials.** Green building is about the standards for building materials and installation methods where the environment is protected. Tax credits and improving air quality are just a few of the benefits of choosing eco-friendly building products for decking, roofing, lighting and more. Natural stone, for example, can be considered a green building material. So when installing kitchen counters, the best options would be marble or granite if you have an eye towards being environment-friendly.

**4. Change your outdoor lighting.** Today, there is a great selection of fixtures that use LED lighting or fluorescent bulbs. Both use 75% less energy than incandescent fixtures. If you don't want to change the fixtures themselves, you can still be green by changing the bulbs to CFL's or compact fluorescent bulbs. They last 10 times longer than the incandescent bulbs.

**5. Create eco-friendly outdoor space.** Driveways and patios often cover significant square footage and can contribute to runoff problems both on and off your lot. Permeable pavement will reduce runoff and erosion and help recharge underground water supplies. For outdoor living spaces, consider options such as solar lighting and patio furniture made from recycled materials.