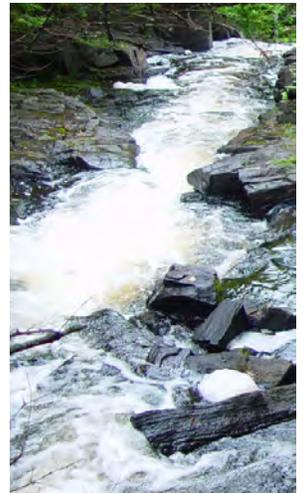


# Linwood Delivers Green Homes that Maintain Luxury

By Sharon Aschaiek



**G**rowing interest among progressive individuals to match their lifestyles with their ideals is creating strong demand for high-end, customized residences from Linwood Custom Homes.

Designed to promote sustainable living and built with environmentally sound materials and processes, high-quality Linwood home packages are perfect for discriminating eco-savvy homebuyers. These eco-friendly home packages are developed based on the custom details of each order and

shipped worldwide to accommodate the building location of the homeowner.

## Renewable Resources and Responsible Practices

“More than 75% of a typical Linwood home is made from renewable resources,” says Roy Gattinger, purchasing, product and R & D manager with the Delta, British Columbia-based company. “As a result, Linwood owners enjoy a home with more beauty and character, and one

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*Top left:* In this Linwood home, ENERGY STAR® Low-E solar gain windows, hot-water-on-demand, a high-performance HVAC system, and a high-efficiency wood burning fireplace add up to energy savings. The maple trees from the building lot were reclaimed and crafted into furniture.

*Photo courtesy of Timber Home Living, Robin Stubbert.*

that's more efficient than traditional homes."

Linwood's timbercrafted homes are sought-after due to their use of premium, B.C. Western Red Cedar. This stable and durable building material is very energy efficient, resulting in cost savings for owners.

To minimize the environmental impact of the building process, Linwood homes are built from carefully premeasured home packages consisting of the precise amount of required materials. "In typical construction, there's a very rough idea of how much lumber is needed for a house," Gattinger says. "However, at Linwood, we count up every component that will go into our homes, so any waste is greatly minimized."

What's also resonating with today's eco-smart homebuyers is the fact that wood homes reduce greenhouse gas emissions because they use less carbon dioxide in their construction process and operation. Linwood also works to protect

this valuable, sustainable resource by only using timber from forests that are immediately replanted.

Consumers who seek to minimize their environmental footprint are finding viable solutions from Linwood. Recently, one Nova Scotia family contacted Linwood to build an off-grid home on an island near Halifax. Conceived in collaboration between Linwood's designers and the home's owners, the completely customized 2,000-sq.-ft., three-bedroom residence will run on solar power, propane and rainwater, and will respect the landscape's integrity.

"Our clients wanted to design their home according to the landscape, and to conserve as much energy as possible," says Linwood dealer Greg MacKinnon of Atlantic Dream Homes, who is overseeing the off-grid project. "In the last two years, we've had more interest in the inherent, natural attributes of Linwood homes – people want to create their own sustainable environment."

## The Average Green Building

**SAVES:**



**35-50%  
WATER**



**35%  
ENERGY**



**35-50%  
CO<sup>2</sup>**



**50-90%  
GARBAGE**

Source: U.S. Green Building Council



This off-grid Linwood home is being constructed with solar panels to capture the sun's energy. Drinking water and running water will be sourced from a rain collecting system, coupled with water tanks stored under the home. *Photo courtesy of Greg MacKinnon, Atlantic Dream Homes.*

## From the Inside Out

On the inside, Linwood homes get high marks for what is referred to in the green building industry as “indoor environmental quality.” Linwood uses brand-name suppliers who meet the high standards of regulatory bodies and educated consumers. For instance, Linwood’s main window supplier is a leading ENERGY STAR® certified company and frontrunner in the area of environmental manufacturing processes. Since a large percentage of each Linwood home is framed around magnificent views, windows play an important role in the indoor environmental quality of each home. Not only do they let natural light into the living space, approved windows can contribute to green building certification due to their efficiency and ability to improve air quality.

“Many Linwood-built homes can also include unseen, but important, features to increase sustainability,” says Craig McFarlane, Linwood vice-president of retail sales. “Radiant barrier sheathing, improved insulation and duct sealing are just a few components.” Other visible environmental features that can be part of a Linwood home are low-VOC paints and stains, solar panels, radiant heat flooring, hot-water-on-demand, geothermal systems, and metal roofs.

## Custom Home Building Made Easy®

The benefits of a Linwood residence, however, do not end with its sustainable design, development and functionality. The warmth and aesthetic appeal of premium Western Red Cedar and other wood species, combined with each home’s distinctive design elements, contribute to the growing, global demand for Linwood’s unique products and services.

The opportunity for complete customization strongly separates Linwood from other home package providers. The company works closely with each client to design a home that is specific to the building lot and unique to each homeowner’s needs before the package goes into production. Lucy Carmen, who had Linwood create her 4,066-sq.-ft. timbercrafted ranch near Tacoma, Wash., says, “Linwood really excelled in taking the time to help me with the details of my design.”

A carefully customized site plan is critical to green home design and building practices. Linwood’s site design philosophy is aligned with the

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key green building guidelines from the Washington, D.C.-based National Association of Home Builders. During the design process, Linwood works with each homeowner to help reduce environmental impact and improve the energy performance of the new home. Design principles such as conserving the natural surroundings, and house orientation to maximize passive solar heating and cooling are processes used when planning the home sites.

*Above: Two high-efficiency, double-sided fireplaces are unique, energy-saving features in Lucy Carmen’s home. Linwood uses timber from forests that are immediately replanted.  
Photo Linwood Homes Ltd.*

Linwood President William Mascott says that Linwood's 40-year success is due to the fact that "Linwood provides the best possible value to a homeowner in terms of creating and building an outstanding, custom home from scratch." He adds, "Linwood carefully oversees the concept development, the design and the delivery of materials." The actual building process is made relatively simple for the average homeowner because Linwood has a strong network of qualified builders who use a proven construction system and work from the company's respected building plans and material packages.

Linwood Custom Homes' distinctive approach to home building is popular not only with individuals, but with forward-thinking home developers. Recently, Alberta-based Wilcor Development Group invited Linwood to supply all 66 homes at Spring Lake Ranch, its new 60-acre development near Edmonton.

"We chose Linwood because we wanted to offer our clients residences

with that West-Coast feel, which you don't see a lot of around here. Linwood also uses the best natural materials in the Country," says Sarah Corker, director of marketing and sales for Spring Lake Ranch.

### Green Living That's Affordable and Luxurious

Situated on half-acre lots and ranging in size from 1,500 to 4,000 sq. ft., the Spring Lake Ranch homes are being built according to 18 different Linwood designs, ranging from ranch-style bungalows to two-storey family homes, or are based on individual design preferences of buyers. The site-specific designs are contoured for walkout basements to let homeowners enjoy more natural light and the best views of Spring Lake.

"People absolutely love the homes. For many, it's been a lifelong desire to own a Linwood home, and they're thrilled they can build one in the geographical place of their choosing," Corker says.

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*Photo Above and Left: Bordered on all four sides by either environmental or municipal reserve land, the homes at Spring Lake Ranch offer energy-efficient appliances and on-demand tankless hot-water heaters; as well, the green-focused development has restrictions on use of fertilizers and pesticides. Photos courtesy of Spring Lake Ranch.*

Linwood also supplies custom designs and building materials for major home renovations and additions. Ed Kloosterman, an experienced builder, turned to Linwood for the design and materials package for his complete timber frame home renovation after searching for premium quality materials that could not be found on the open market. The Linwood building materials, including the impressive cedar and Douglas Fir are highlights of their home. Says Alma Kloosterman, "Wood is a lovely, living product. It will age with us and never go out of style."

The sentiment of an exceptional home created from the best quality renewable resources is one that's echoed by Linwood homeowners in 26 countries. For example, Julie Taylor of Perthshire, Scotland says, "I still stand in the house and marvel that we can have this wonderful home. We're just so proud of the whole thing."

As consumers learn more about the green building process on a global scale, they realize that it takes an integrated approach between themselves, home



designers, builders and material suppliers to create living spaces that are both beautiful and environmentally responsible. Since 1968, Linwood has continued to develop its extensive expertise and resources to become a valuable partner in all respects of the green building process. As a result, the sustainability, unique customization and outstanding quality of Linwood home packages are ideal for discriminating homebuyers the world over.



*Photos above: A memorable new Linwood design resulted from a complete timber frame renovation. Builder Ed Kloosterman conducted the renovation on his home using Linwood materials, as well as the company's custom design and drafting services. Photos Linwood Homes Ltd.*



*This home in Perthshire, Scotland was designed by Linwood and built from a carefully premeasured home package. Linwood has delivered custom home packages to 26 countries. Photo courtesy of Log & Cedar Homes Ltd.*