



GreenHouse the next generation

Meet the new kid on the energy-efficiency block – GreenHouse. Launched just recently, GreenHouse boasts all the energy-efficiency of an Energy Star home, but expands its scope to include indoor air quality, water conservation and resource management. In addition to trimming energy consumption by 30%, a GreenHouse-certified home will reduce water use by 25%, raw materials by 15%, and construction waste by 25%.

Like ESNH, builders must include some compulsory elements and choose others from a menu of flex options. These eco-friendly features include an HRV, low- or dual-flush toilets, and low-VOC paints, glues and finishes.

EnerQuality Corporation expects many homes to be dual-labelled as Energy Star builders embrace the new GreenHouse standards.

Durham Homes broke ground recently on the very first GreenHouse-certified home, which will be built in Oshawa. General manager Victor Fiume says the program is an affordable, made-in-Ontario solution. "As a company, we're leaders. We push the envelope; we drive the industry. (Now that it's launched,) we'll only build GreenHouse."



Durham Homes will construct the first GreenHouse-certified home, shown in this artist's rendering. It will build on the energy efficiency of Energy Star homes.