



WHAT IS A GREEN CREDIT?

A green credit is a unit of measure used by the Florida Green Building Coalition (www.floridagreenbuilding.org) to evaluate and certify a new or existing home as "green."

WHAT IS A GREEN-CERTIFIED HOME?

A green-certified home has earned at least 100 green credit points; has obtained the minimum points required for eight categories (energy, water, lot choice, site, health, materials, disaster mitigation, and general); and has complied with two prerequisites concerning 1) swimming pools/ spas and 2) waterfront considerations.

HOW DOES A HOME BECOME GREEN-CERTIFIED?

An FGBC green home certifying agent must evaluate the home and submit a completed checklist along with documentation for certification. For landscapes, a house must also be certified by a Florida Yards and Neighborhoods (FY&N) Professional.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF A GREEN-CERTIFIED HOME?

A green-certified home uses less energy, water and natural resources; creates less waste; and is healthier and more comfortable for the occupants. The benefits of a green certified home include lower energy and water bills; reduced greenhouse gas emissions; and less exposure to mold, mildew and other indoor toxins.

BENEFITS OF GREEN CERTIFIED HOMES

Benefits to the home buyer	Benefits to the home builder	Benefits to the community
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhances the profitability of resale. Enhances the affordability of operation. Enhances the indoor air quality of the home. Increases the durability of the home. Provides for greater access to mortgage money. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gain valuable promotion and advertising. Differentiate your home from the competition. Homebuyers link green home features with quality. Increase customer referrals. Add to the marketing value of your homes. Reduce builder callbacks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conservation of water resources. Management of waste and stormwater. Provide/maintain affordable housing. Maintain affordable and reliable energy sources.

HOW MANY POINTS CAN A HOUSE EARN BY BEING LANDSCAPED WITH EMPIRE TURF?

A house can earn two points (*Category 2, Criteria W-16*) by landscaping with EMPIRE Turf.

An *additional 7 points can be earned by:*

- Planting EMPIRE Turf and all other vegetation at least 2 ft. from the foundation of the house (*1 point; Category 7, Criteria DM-12*)
- Testing the soil and amending it, if necessary (*2 points: Category 4; Criteria W-24*)
- Installing EMPIRE Turf in an evenly-shaped area that is easier to water and maintain (such as a circle, oval, or large rectangular areas rather than in long thin strips); do not plant EMPIRE on berms (*2 points: Category 2, Criteria W-16*)
- Receiving on-site training on how to properly maintain an EMPIRE Turf lawn (*2 points: Category 8; Criteria G-12*)

