



{ green home remodeling series }
healthy homes for a healthy environment

salvage & reuse





why

Why Consider a Green Remodel?

SAVE MONEY

When you incorporate salvaged materials into your project, they often cost less than new products, and last longer, too. This is especially the case when you are trying to match—or create a style reminiscent of—the period or quality of older homes. Another plus? When you choose salvaged materials over new, you reduce disposal costs and help our local economy by creating jobs for retailers specializing in these environmentally-friendly services.

MAKE A HEALTHIER HOME

By minimizing your remodel's scope and reusing materials in place, you'll reduce the likelihood of your remodel releasing hazards into the home, such as lead-based paint dust or asbestos. When reusing materials, careful selection can avoid introducing additional hazards from materials finished with lead-based paint.

REDUCE ECOLOGICAL IMPACT

In addition to lessening the burden on our landfills, reusing salvaged materials minimizes the demand for mining, tree harvesting, water, energy, and other natural resources, as well as toxic materials used to process, manufacture and transport new materials.

green

What is a Green Remodel?

It's an approach to home improvement with the goal of not only making your house look better, but work better—for both you and the environment. With careful planning, you can create a living space that combines beauty, efficiency, comfort, and convenience with health and conservation.

THE CHICAGO GREEN HOME REMODELING SERIES

To help you plan your remodel, the City of Chicago has produced six guides that address common homeowner concerns. Download the complete series at www.cityofchicago.org/environment. See "Chicago Green Homes".

KITCHENS covers flooring, appliances, cabinetry, counter tops, tile and more

BATHS & LAUNDRY explore energy and water-efficient alternatives for showers, baths, sinks, and toilets

BUILDING ENVELOPE learn weatherization techniques for your home and how to choose roofing materials, insulation, windows and more.

PAINTING topics range from removal to color choices to the benefits of low-VOC paints for family and house health

SALVAGE & REUSE learn about the reuse opportunities in your home, from flooring, molding and cabinets to products made from recycled goods

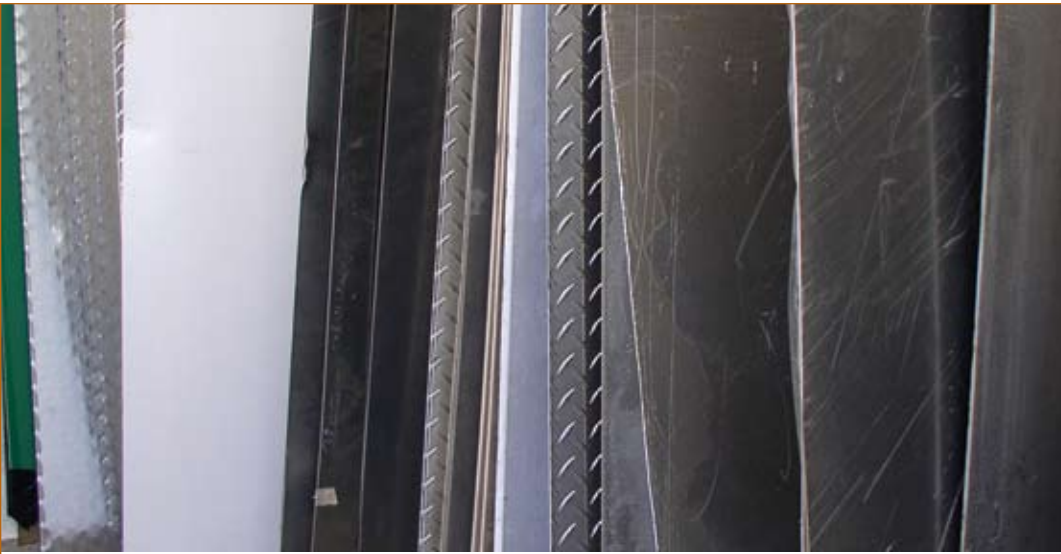
HIRING THE PROS identify how to find green contractors or architects and how to work with any contractor to ensure a green result.

salvage & reuse

The City of Chicago requires contractors to recycle construction and demolition debris on a job site. Since March 2006, more than 431,528 tons (or 90% of the material generated) has been diverted from the landfill. Although home projects represent only a portion of the construction waste total, a remodel invariably results in a variety of items being discarded.

Fortunately, more options exist for reusing and recycling used building materials today. A number of retail locations and online resources now accept and offer salvaged building materials making it possible to not only minimize your remodeling waste, but incorporate "new" recycled items into your project. You can find salvaged supplies for virtually every building material category, from flooring to fixtures. Especially in Chicago's vintage homes, used building materials can temper the newness of a remodel while tying fresh elements to the existing home. When you walk through the aisles of a used building-materials retailer, you take a tour of Chicago's architectural history. Discover fixtures of a quality unobtainable today, often at a fraction of the cost of new, all while benefiting our environment.

The Green Home Remodeling Series was originally created by the Seattle Public Utilities Sustainable Building Program, with the assistance of Seattle Public Utilities Resource Conservation staff. The Chicago Department of Environment acknowledges the Seattle Public Utilities Sustainable Building Program for permission to revise these brochures for use in Chicago.



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rethink/remodel

Up-front planning minimizes remodeling waste. A space-efficient design can reduce or eliminate the need to add square footage or remove walls. A flexible floor plan allows your home to adapt to changing uses and needs, without costly modifications. When you choose quality products and enduring design, your project will be one you and your family can enjoy for years to come. When integrating used materials into your project, products and plans often continue to influence each other as the remodel progresses. Be prepared to modify your schedule if need be, and create flexible designs that leave room to utilize used materials or newly found items.

Decide What You Want

The most effective home remodeling projects begin when you thoroughly assess your wants and needs. By prioritizing goals, you can avoid confusing the ends with the means. For example, if your goal is to just add more square footage, you may end up with a bigger home—and costlier remodel—that still fails to address your space needs. However, if your goal is to create an efficient and effective use of space, you'll have the opportunity to do more with the square footage you already have.

Expand Your Definition of Cost

The initial price only gives a peephole view of the true cost of a product or design. A higher purchase price can mean a better deal in the long run. You can actually reduce the cost of living in your home by choosing resource-efficient materials and designs (lowering monthly bills), and durable materials (requiring less frequent replacement). Focus on long-term savings, ease of maintenance and conservation, not just the initial price. A low purchase price may simply mean a good deal or it may signify a lack of quality or durability, or even that some environmental, health, or social costs are not included in the price tag. Also consider that salvaged and reused materials are often free or much less expensive than new materials. These savings can lower the total cost of remodeling and allow you to invest in better materials and equipment in other areas.

Remodel Safely

First, identify health objectives for your new design, then determine what hazards may already exist in your home and those that could be created by the remodeling process. For tips on staying safe as you remove materials from your home, see *Salvage & Recycling* on page 2.

When reusing materials, care must be taken to avoid introducing new hazards into your home. Pay particular attention to lead-based paint, lead fittings and solder on plumbing products, as well as asbestos in shingles, flooring, ductwork and some appliances. For details, see *When Not to Reuse* on page 7.

Photo, left: reused lumber by GreenLeaf Construction. Photo, middle: by Corinne Knight. Photo, right: stair treads from old bleacher seats by Ted Granger, Architect.

beyond waste

This guide focuses on salvaging materials *from* projects, and incorporating used materials *into* remodeling. There are, however, many ways to design waste *out* of a project. The following table lists strategies for reducing remodeling waste. Keep in mind that there is often no single “right” decision to minimize your project’s environmental impact. But with research, planning and creativity, you can take advantage of waste prevention opportunities that might be missed in a conventional remodel.

manage project scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Focus on meeting the largest number of your goals with the fewest modifications to your current space. This will cost less, reduce disruption, and use fewer resources.■ Consider a not-so-big approach to home improvement. An increasingly common goal with green remodeling is to stay within a house’s original footprint to save money and outdoor space.■ Use materials efficiently while ensuring quality construction, safety, and durability.
maximize flexibility and space efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Design spaces that can adapt with minimal modification as users’ needs and abilities change, including integrating Universal Design (for more, see the “Kitchens” or “Baths & Laundry” Green Home Remodeling guides).■ Create multi-purpose spaces, such as a room that can be used for entertainment, a home office, and a guest room rather than three rooms devoted solely to each purpose.■ Analyze how and with what frequency you use your current space. Consider whether seldom used spaces can be reassigned to accommodate more frequent activities, or combined with more popular spaces.
create enduring design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Research designs appropriate for your home’s vintage, and preserve still-functioning elements that match the period, such as a pedestal sink in a Chicago Bungalow.■ Unfortunately, dated designs are often torn out well before they’re worn out. Focus on designs that maintain and enhance your home’s style. Often, older magazines and design books highlight colors and finishes that can withstand the test of time. If design schemes from 10-20 years ago still look fresh today, capitalize on their timeless quality in your project.
design for deconstruction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Opt for simple designs with fewer elements. These are easier to take apart and reuse.■ When possible, use nails and screws rather than adhesives. This facilitates disassembly and avoids glues that can diminish air quality.■ Use a limited palette of materials to make future salvage more worthwhile (larger quantities of a single material are more marketable than small amounts).

salvage & recycling

While hauling your remodeling waste to the recycling and disposal station can seem like the easiest option, many items may be useful to someone else, or even reused on your own project. By planning your activities and carefully removing materials to retain their value (*deconstructing* rather than demolishing), you can increase the likelihood of a future life for these materials, beyond the landfill. A little sweat equity can go a long way toward reducing your disposal expenses. If you can reuse materials on your own project, you will save money by not having to buy new. In some cases, you can also make money by selling your unwanted building materials, such as old hardware or a pedestal sink. The buyer will probably be willing to haul the material away from you.

For optimum results, take the following steps to manage remodeling project materials:

1. reuse in place (leaving material as-is, repairing, refinishing, or re-facing, etc.);
2. salvage and reuse (on the project, in the home, sell, donate, or trade);
3. recycling; and
4. proper disposal of what is left.

Nearly all projects involve a bit of each. The green goal is to get as much of your materials into the top categories, while minimizing the amount that ends up in the landfill.

getting organized

Organization is the key to successful salvage, so formulating a plan makes sense. This plan will make salvage easier, help reduce the health effects on your family, and minimize environmental impact.

1. Compile a materials list.

Walk through your project, and create a list of all the materials that have reuse and recycling potential. Refer to the table on page 6 (*Used Materials Index*) for help determining whether items you are removing are recyclable or desirable for reuse. While making your list, consider repairing or reusing some materials in place, such as gypsum wallboard.

2. Find salvage and recycling options.

There are numerous outlets for reusable and recyclable materials: used building materials retailers, online exchanges, classified ads, and recycling companies. See the Illinois Waste Management and Research Center or Illinois Recycling Association (www.illinoisrecycles.org) and search under “Members” or “I Recycle.”

Remember to call companies before arriving with a load. Many reuse businesses have limited space and changing lists of materials they accept. Depending on the material, you may receive a small amount of cash, in-store credit, or the material may be considered a “donation,” meaning you can get rid of it for free (and some stores can offer a tax credit for materials). If they won’t take a material, you can still post it on online exchanges or classified ads. Recycling operations are usually more flexible, but may charge a fee, which should always be less than the per-ton fee at recycling and disposal stations. If not, call another recycling service.

Another valuable resource for getting rid of and finding local building materials is a free online exchange network such as Craigslist (<http://chicago.craigslist.org>) or Freecycle (www.freecycle.org).

3. Develop a health and safety plan.

Make your objectives for dust and fume containment, as well as cleanup procedures, clear with contractors, friends, and family—before work begins. One often-overlooked hazard involves lead dust—a serious indoor health risk, especially in households with children or expectant mothers. Homes built before 1960 contain paints with the highest concentration of lead. All homes built before 1978 almost certainly contain some amount of lead paint. Create a strategy to protect the rest of the home from dust and debris hazards. If necessary, use tape and plastic to seal heating vents in and near work areas. Do NOT use heat guns to remove paint, establish a barrier at the threshold of the room where you are working, and “wet” sand all exposed surfaces. These practices will contain hazardous fumes and dust resulting from renovation. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers excellent guidelines for addressing lead hazards during remodeling. Visit www.epa.gov/lead or call the National Lead Information Center at (800) 424-LEAD for help creating a plan to deal with lead hazards during remodeling.

- Asbestos also poses a remodeling hazard. For a list of common asbestos-containing home materials and tips on safely dealing with them during remodeling, go to www.epa.gov/asbestos. For information on other potential hazards, see “Addressing Indoor Environmental Concerns During Remodeling” at www.epa.gov/iaq/homes/hip-front.html.

If removing walls or wallboard, always shut off the electricity to that portion of the house. Also consider the safety of the tools you use, and the manner in which you will remove materials. You may need an extra set of hands for bulky or awkward items. Nails, glass, and sharp metal pose common hazards on a construction site. Reduce the risk of a painful puncture or snag by removing nails from lumber, molding, and cabinetry as you go.

Organizing a large remodel?

Consider a demolition

contractor who carefully

dismantles materials for reuse

and recycling. To help find such

a contractor, visit the Illinois

Recycling Association ([www.](http://www.illinoisrecycles.org)

illinoisrecycles.org) and search

under “Members”.



4. Remove materials.

The key to successful salvage? Careful removal. Keeping materials intact and unbroken maximizes the likelihood of reuse, and retains their value. Another tip: bundle multiples of a particular material. Make a call to a used building materials store before you start. Just tell them what you're trying to remove and they can often recommend the best tools for the job. The right tools help immeasurably. Save money by renting or borrowing tools you're unlikely to use frequently. A utility knife usually works well for freeing materials that have been painted together (such as cabinetry and drywall, molding and baseboard, light fixtures and ceiling). Small and large pry bars are proven essentials for removing molding, cabinetry, and anything that's been nailed down.

5. Define a storage area.

Keep materials tidy and safe in a protected storage area. Ideally, you want to set aside space for organizing your materials by type and destination: salvage, recycling, and disposal. Keep items—especially those slated for salvage and recycling—protected and dry. A sudden rain storm can quickly turn reusable materials into garbage. Store materials destined for recycling in piles according to how the recycling service accepts them. Recyclable materials that are contaminated (containing materials other than recyclable material) may be rejected and end up as garbage. Contain and secure all hazardous materials (i.e. asbestos, lead paint, molded carpet or woodwork) in a safe location for pick-up by a certified hazardous waste handler.

6. Arrange for hauling.

Many opt to self-haul. You can borrow a truck, or rent one on an hourly basis from hardware stores, or rental agencies. Use extra caution if you hire a private company to haul materials. Some part-time operations are unfamiliar with recycling and reuse options, or worse, illegally dump materials you believe are being properly transported. To avoid this, work only with permitted and licensed hauling companies that agree to take no more than half of their fee up front, with the remainder paid after you receive official receipts from the destinations you specified. Beware the "great deal"—it usually proves too good to be true, and could be a sign that the hauling service is improperly disposing of materials. Ensure that your waste disposal company obtains a current and valid license to accept and dispose of hazardous materials.





reuse

Reuse puts all those building materials saved from the landfill into new projects. Often, used items serve the same purpose as before with little or no reprocessing, making them environmentally superior to recycled items. Another plus: used items are almost always utilized right here in our region—so very little energy is expended, or pollution created, to transport them. Incorporating used materials into your project might take more time and creativity than buying new, off-the-shelf items, but it pays dividends aesthetically, economically, and ecologically.

Used building materials are available from many sources, including building salvage stores, thrift stores, antique stores, online exchanges, classified ads, and demolition sales. Another resource for getting rid of (and finding) local building materials is a free online exchange network such as Craigslist (<http://chicago.craigslist.org>) or Freecycle (www.freecycle.org). Habitat for Humanity runs Habitat ReStores, retail outlets where quality used and surplus materials are sold at a fraction of normal prices. Materials sold by Habitat ReStores are usually donated from building supply stores, contractors, demolition crews or from individuals who wish to show their support for Habitat. Visit www.habitat.org to find out more.

Tips For Incorporating Used Materials Into Your Project:

- Plan ahead. Give yourself time to find used products that meet your needs. Start looking early, and carry a list of the design elements you'd like to come from salvaged materials. Also keep specific measurements of cabinetry, countertops, ceiling heights, wall and floor lengths, etc. handy so you can determine whether salvaged elements will fit in your space. Shopping for used building materials is a form of treasure hunting: it's the "early and often" salvage-seeker who finds the best stuff. Make sure you have sufficient and proper storage for your found materials. Moisture and cold, over time, can destroy your new treasure before you get the chance to use it, or necessitate costly refinishing or repair.
- Be creative. Think outside the box when it comes to using salvaged materials, because someone else's trash could become your treasure. Could those old wooden bleacher seats become bookshelves or stair treads? Could that slate chalkboard be reborn as a kitchen counter or shower walls? Adventurous materials decisions can add character and a sense of history to your new space.
- Show flexibility. Searching for a single, specific item may take a lot of time and be frustrating. You should love what you select, but keep your options open. Be willing to let go of one idea if another opportunity arises. Instead of creating a design and then hunting for the materials to make it work, why not let your discovery be your starting point? If you come across a beautiful salvaged piece, such as vintage laboratory cabinets, a Craftsman-style fireplace mantle, or a pre-cut marble countertop, consider building part or all of your design around this unexpected treasure.
- Prioritize health, safety, and efficiency. It's not always good to reuse. Avoid materials that may introduce hazards into your home such as lead, asbestos, or unsafe electrical products. Consider too, whether a product you select will negatively affect your home's efficiency (such as single-pane windows). For more, see *When Not to Reuse* on page 7.

Working With Design Professionals

Incorporating used materials into a project is a specific skill, new to many design professionals. If you're using an architect or interior designer on your project and wish to incorporate used building materials, look to the *Hiring the Pros* guide in the Green Home Remodel series. Beyond pointers specific to materials reuse, this guide will help you find a green design or building professional for your job, covering issues of health and efficiency as well. Find the guide online at the Chicago Department of the Environment (www.cityofchicago.org/environment) or call (312) 744-7606.

Reusing building materials not only benefits the environment and your pocketbook, it also supports local businesses and helps create jobs in the Chicago area.

used material index

The following items are examples of materials that are often desired by others and generally available for reuse. Disposal options, health concerns, and considerations for buying new are also indicated.

ITEM	WHAT TO REUSE	WHAT TO RECYCLE	WHAT TO DISPOSE	ENVIRONMENTAL & HEALTH CONCERNS
wood (lumber, flooring, etc.)	timbers, large dimension lumber, plywood, flooring, molding, lumber longer than 6 feet	unpainted and untreated wood unfit for reuse	painted, pressure-treated and rotting wood	lead paint, structural integrity
windows	windows in good condition (for single panes, consider adding storm windows)	metal frames and screens, unpainted and untreated wood	glass, unusable painted items and wood in disrepair	lead paint, asbestos in older window glazing compound, energy inefficiency
cabinets	consider re-facing, or reusing in your home/shop/garage; reuse hardware (hinges and knobs)	remove and recycle hardware, unpainted and unfinished wood	painted or finished wood	lead paint, formaldehyde in particleboard or interior-grade plywood
plumbing products	sinks, tubs, faucets	metal pipe, toilets and inefficient plumbing fixtures (porcelain or metal), faucets with lead-content	PVC and other plastic pipe; toilet seats (not accepted at recycling stations)	drinking water: lead content in faucets, solder, and old galvanized pipe
plaster and gypsum wallboard	repair cracks, or cover with textured paint, install new wallboard over old, or "skim coat"	wood lath—if clean—can be reused/recycled, unpainted wallboard	painted plaster or wallboard	nuisance dust, lead paint on walls, possible asbestos in older wallboard
electrical products	only if in good working order, or re-wired	metals (fixtures, conduit)	ceramic and plastic parts	frayed wires, possible asbestos insulation
landscape materials	timbers, stone, concrete	untreated, unpainted wood	rotting, treated, and painted wood	treated wood may contain arsenic, etc., wear a respirator and gloves when cutting; do not burn treated wood
non-wood flooring (tile, carpet, etc.)	difficult, unless removed intact, clean carpet in good condition	large quantities of ceramic tile	vinyl, stained carpet, broken tile	asbestos content in 9-inch tiles or sheet vinyl flooring, lead particles in dust in old carpet
roofing materials (see Building Envelope guide for more details)	retain sheathing, if in good condition, terra cotta or slate tiles	metal materials, contractors generally have outlets for recycling asphalt roofing materials, untreated cedar shingles	treated cedar shingles	possible asbestos content

when not to reuse

Some building materials should not be reused because they either pose safety risks or waste energy or water. So, it's best to be prudent and on the lookout for potential problems.

Health Hazards

lead	Widely used until 1978, lead paint is primarily a concern when it flakes or forms dust (such as that caused by scraping or dry sanding). Old plumbing fixtures (faucets) often contain lead solder and leaded brass, which can leach into drinking water. Lead solder was frequently used to join copper pipes until it was banned in 1980. If you have concerns or questions about lead, visit the U.S. EPA's lead information page at www.epa.gov/lead or call the National Lead Information Center at (800) 424-LEAD.
asbestos	This known carcinogen was used in many building products, particularly from the 1940s until the 1970s. Older materials that may contain asbestos include 9-inch square flooring tiles and older sheet vinyl flooring, "popcorn" textured ceilings, roofing and siding, ductwork insulation, window glazing compound, and vermiculite insulation. For more information, visit www.epa.gov/asbestos and click on Asbestos in Your Home.
Mercury, PCBs, and arsenic.	Old thermostats, "silent" light switches as well as those with internal lights, and all fluorescent tubes and bulbs contain varying amounts of mercury. Pre-1978 fluorescent light fixture ballasts may have carcinogenic PCB (polychlorinated biphenyls). Pressure-treated woods often contain a variety of toxic substances such as arsenic.

Fire Safety and Structural Risks

used lumber	Used lumber intended for structural applications must be professionally re-graded to meet Chicago building codes. When in doubt, choose salvaged lumber for non-structural applications such as interior non-bearing walls, flooring, cabinets, or trim. Timbers of sufficient size may not need re-grading.
doors	Doors in some applications require a fire rating. Used doors must be inspected on a case-by-case basis if they are being specified for an application where the code requires a fire rating. For additional information related to the Chicago Building Code, see the Department of Construction and Permits at www.cityofchicago.org/dcap .

Energy and Water Inefficiency

toilets and fixtures	All toilets manufactured before 1994 waste huge amounts of water and should not be reused. Compared to a new 1.6 gallon-per-flush (GPF) toilet, a typical 5 GPF toilet—commonly manufactured before 1980—will waste over 12,400 gallons and \$54 in water and sewer costs per year. There are many styles of new 1.6 GPF toilets to match the period of your home. Another source of water waste? Old showerheads. Reuse a showerhead only if it's rated for 2.5 gallons per minute (GPM)—2.0 GPM is preferable. (The GPM should be listed on the showerhead. If not, assume it's inefficient.) Buy efficient, high quality toilets (see "Toiletology 101" at www.toiletology.com). For water saving tips, see "Water Conservation Tips" under Natural Resources at www.cityofchicago.org/environment .
windows	Old single-paned windows and most aluminum-framed double-paned windows are energy-inefficient; to meet building codes they can only be reused if building energy use calculations are modified and energy improvements made in other parts of your home to compensate. For information on the Chicago Energy Conservation Code, visit the Chicago Department of Construction and Permits at www.cityofchicago.org/dcap . Thinking of replacing your old windows? Go to www.efficientwindows.org to learn about energy-efficient options. If your single-paned windows are in good condition and you plan to maintain them, storm windows can reduce their heat loss by 25%-50%, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. Inefficient windows can be reused in unheated buildings, such as sheds, greenhouses, and outbuildings, in interior spaces as transoms or for garden hothouses and cold frames.
appliances	Old appliances, water heaters, furnaces, and boilers should only be reused if they meet current energy conservation and safety standards. In general, new Energy Star® refrigerators, clothes washers, and dishwashers offer significantly greater efficiency than older models; visit www.energystar.gov for more information. Also note that old refrigerators and air conditioners likely contain ozone-depleting CFCs, therefore it is not recommended to use them as a backup in your basement or garage, and old appliances may contain asbestos and other hazardous materials. See the Chicago Recycling Association (www.chicagorecycling.org) for information about recycling appliances.

resources

Books

- *New Spaces from Salvage* by Thomas O’Gorman (Barron’s Educational Series, 2002). Ideas for incorporating salvaged materials into building projects and home decorating.
- *Healthy House Building for the New Millennium* by John Bower (Healthy House Institute, 1999). Covers all aspects of building a healthy house, with a small section on salvaged materials.
- *Green Remodeling: Changing the World One Room at a Time* by David Johnston and Kim Master (New Society Publishers, 2004). A comprehensive resource on green remodeling, with some information on salvage and construction recycling.
- *How Buildings Learn: What Happens After They’re Built* by Stuart Brand. (Penguin, 1995). A handbook for constructing adaptive buildings that incorporates a conservationist approach to design, use of traditional materials, and attention to local style.

Websites

- *Addressing Indoor Environmental Concerns During Remodeling* at www.epa.gov/iaq/homes/hip-front.html
- For recycling tips, recycling associations, and upcoming recycling events, visit www.illinoisrecycles.org.
- For more than 20 years, the Chicago Recycling Coalition has provided information on Chicago’s recycling options. Visit www.chicagorecycling.org.
- Both Craigslist and Freecycle offer Chicagoans an online exchange network. Visit their websites and search for used treasure for free: <http://chicago.craigslist.org> or www.freecycle.org.

The Chicago Center for Green Technology

The Chicago Center for Green Technology (CCGT) is a great public resource for green remodelers, offering year-round educational programs and workshops on architecture, engineering, interior design, building construction and management, green business, and landscape design, many of them for free. CCGT also houses the Green Tech Resource Center, a library containing samples of environmentally-friendly building and design materials, in addition to books and periodicals including those referenced in the Chicago Green Remodeling Series. For more information and building hours, visit their web site at www.cityofchicago.org/environment/greentech or call (312) 746-9642. CCGT is located at 445 N. Sacramento Blvd. in Chicago.

Enroll in Chicago Green Homes

To take your home to an even higher level of environmental sustainability and energy efficiency, enroll in the City of Chicago’s Green Homes Program. Chicago Green Homes is a flexible, voluntary, point-based certification system which encourages the use of environmentally-friendly building practices and materials. Choosing from a checklist of options and strategies, developers, builders and homeowners can earn points for their residential projects. Upon review and approval by the Chicago Department of Environment, a Chicago Green Homes Certificate will be issued with a 1, 2, or 3-star rating depending on the number of points attained. Participants will also be granted the use of the Chicago Green Homes logo, and their projects will be listed on the City’s website.

To learn more about Chicago Green Homes or the Chicago Green Remodeling Series, visit the Chicago Department of Environment’s website at www.cityofchicago.org/environment (See “Chicago Green Homes”) or call (312) 744-7606.





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City of Chicago

Richard M. Daley, Mayor



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