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Modular Paradigm House Design Packs Serious Green Punch

Posted on 07. Jan, 2013 by [Maryruth Belsey Priebe](#) in [Articles](#)

Method Paradigm green house interior



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The new [Paradigm](#) modular home design has serious wow-factor, as is evidenced by the turning of heads throughout the green building industry. The prototype house, which appeared at the recent Greenbuild conference in San Francisco, was designed by Bogue Trandowski Architects and constructed by the Seattle-based prefab builder, [Method Homes](#).

To get an idea of just how deep green this house design is set to be, check out the list of certifications and standards it's hoping to achieve:

- [LEED Platinum](#)
- 6 or 7 Petals of the [Living Building Challenge](#) (depending on final installation site)
- Net zero energy
- Net zero water

Method Paradigm modular green house plan



Those are some pretty steep goals, but with all of these green features, it's no

surprise they're gunning for such ambitious results:

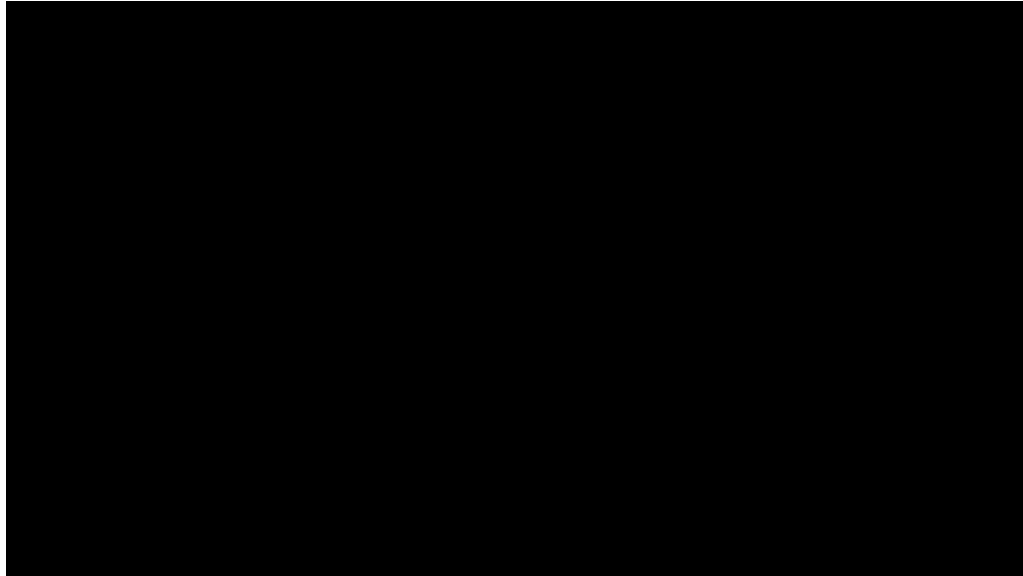
- Hybrid heating/cooling pump hot water heater
- Renewable bamboo hardwood flooring
- Composite decking material
- Composting toilet that diverts liquids for landscaping
- Greywater recycling system
- LED lighting
- Solar photovoltaics
- Home energy management system
- Automated shading system
- Energy recovery ventilator
- Convertible furniture to save space from [Resource Furniture](#)
- FSC-harvested engineered lumber and Western Red Cedar siding
- Zero VOC paints and finishes
- R-48 ceiling insulation
- R-33+ tapered foam roof insulation
- R-31 exterior wall insulation
- Rainwater recycling and filtration system
- Greenhouse for home food production
- ENERGY STAR appliances
- Triple-glaze windows

This may be the first modular home to ever attempt to earn the rigorous Living Building Challenge seal of approval. The fact that it may be able to achieve net-zero energy and net-zero water standards as well makes this perhaps the most sustainable modular home around. Method is also tracking the waste generated for construction of prototype with a goal of 98% to 99% landfill diversion.

There are three Paradigm floorplans from which to choose: the one bed, one bath Paradigm 1 (656 square feet); the two bed, 1.5 bath Paradigm II (1,312 square feet); and the three bed, 2.5 bath Paradigm III (1,868 square feet). Though the

exterior of the design is nothing spectacular to write home about, the cool modular furniture interior makes the most of small spaces, and the large-scale floor-to-ceiling sliding doors along the length of one side of the house provides an expansive flow between the inside and outside.

As Brian Abramson, co-founder of Method Homes, commented, “We are very excited to push the sustainable envelope on prefab.” Push they did, and the results are impressive.



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Tags: energy star, green certification, LEED, living building challenge, net zero energy, net zero water, USGBC

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