

At Home *Green Edition*



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MERTEN

Sustainable Design Build

Merten specializes in the architectural design and construction of innovative and sustainable Remodels, Custom Homes, and Developments.

Our mission is simple: To build innovative designs that possess quantifiable **ECO-ELEGANCE** – homes in which unique design and unsurpassed comfort are paired with the responsible use of resources, materials, and energy.



ARCHITECTURE

CONSTRUCTION

INTERIOR DESIGN

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Merten: Innovators in Green Building and Design

By Judy Finman

Merten is Green to its core.

"I started Merten in order to provide people with the latest innovations in Green Building design and construction," says founder, President and CEO Donna Merten. "The results have exceeded my expectations, and I am excited to continue this rewarding service."

Merten is a full-service, sustainable design-build firm. Comprising Merten Design Studio and Merten Construction, the firm specializes in the Green architecture and sustainable construction of high-performance remodels, new construction, and developments. All Merten homes are Energy Star-rated and Built Green. Merten also designs and builds according to LEED.

Merten homes are furnished with such energy-efficient technologies as geothermal heating and cooling, solar thermal, photovoltaics, low-e glass, exceptional insulation, and overall Green architectural design.

"We bring years of experience in high-performance building design and construction. For our clients that means lower energy bills, exceptional comfort and sustainability, and overall beauty. Merten homes embody refined, unassuming elegance," says Brad Duckham, Merten marketing director.

Sustainable design-build means Merten builds for the long term. The company applies

Sustainability Principles to the site, the design, the materials, and technology – like storm water management; optimizing active and passive



solar; promoting healthy indoor air quality; responsible use of renewable materials, resources and energy; and much more.

Delighting Clients

Here are a few of Merten's remarkable projects, which embody its principles of eco-friendliness and sustainability. You can view them at www.merteninc.com.

- Surrounded by the Phantom Canyon Nature Preserve, this new home received LEED-Gold certification. The home has many beautiful design accents and innovative energy solutions. As part of the stringent LEED process, site disturbance was minimal. All aspects of the design and construction addressed resource conservation and the use of local materials.

"Dream clients, this couple told us they wanted to help Merten receive its first LEED certified project. This type of collaborative dynamic exemplifies Merten's reason for being in business," says Duckham. "The clients joined in for the timber raising and treated all contractors, subcontractors, and neighbors to sustainable catering and a bluegrass band. They kept insisting that they were going

to adopt the Project Manager responsible for their project."

- The Mapleton Cottage is the smallest building designed by Merten so far. It is the first straw bale structure ever built in Boulder's prestigious Mapleton Historic District. The 375-square-foot cottage offers multifunctional use without sacrificing comfort, efficiency, or beauty. Environmental air quality was essential to these clients, and every material and product had to undergo client and contractor review. Merten ensured that subcontractors were knowledgeable and respectful of the client wishes for eco-friendly construction materials and techniques.

- Originally built in 1955, this 955-square-foot ranch has received a complete green remodel. Transforming this energy-deficient home into an energy-efficient showpiece was challenging and exciting, especially since it was the architect's home. Featuring clean burning power (courtesy of geothermal heating and cooling, heat recovery ventilator, and photovoltaics), the home provides quiet comfort. Moreover, zero-VOC paints, stains, and finishes also contribute to the home's exceptional indoor

environmental quality.

- A 65-acre historical farm in Longmont, from the late 1800s, has been transformed into a vibrant holistic center. In keeping with the restorative qualities of this spiritual environment, sustainable building techniques were encouraged and welcomed.

Four Mile Canyon Fire Victims

Merten is offering discounts to those whose homes have been damaged or who have lost their homes. "Our hearts are with you," says Brad Duckham. "If you choose to rebuild, please consider our suite of services. We will work to meet your bottom line."

Schedule an appointment

Located in downtown Boulder, Merten's office is behind Pharmaca on 17th and Pearl. Merten offers a pressure-free, casual, and efficient consultative environment. Walk-ins are welcome. If you'd like to schedule an appointment, please call 720.304.0011 or e-mail dmerten@merteninc.com. The initial consultation and on-site visit is free of charge.

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