

CenterStone Communities, Santa Ana, California

Solar Home Community

Harmony is CenterStone Communities' first solar community in the San Bernardino County.

CenterStone Communities is committed to designing homes that are increasingly healthy for homeowners, more efficient, and gentler on the environment. Harmony solar homes typically out perform California's Title 24 Energy Codes by 17% to 42%. Each home operates with a reduction of power plant pollutants and dependence on non-renewable energy resources.

CenterStone homes have the most modern Energy Star rated appliances, low flow toilets, weather smart irrigation sensors and low-E glass dual paned windows. The insulation installed contains no formaldehyde and is certified as low emitting by the State of California. More than 60% of construction waste is recycled which reduces the amount of waste sent to landfills and saves money for the buyer in the construction of their new home.

"Harmony homes provide 2.3 kw solar roof module systems that combine energy production and aesthetic design- delighted home owners brag about next to no cost electrical bills! "

-Acquanetta Warren
Mayor Pro Tem, City of Fontana



Photo Credit: Applied Photography Inc.

Harmony at CenterStone Estates, (shown above), is an environmentally responsible solar community with photovoltaic panels installed on community houses.

Business Snapshot

Sustainable home construction company with the first solar home community in San Bernardino County, a 53 home community built in 2008

Actions to Cut Waste & Save Energy

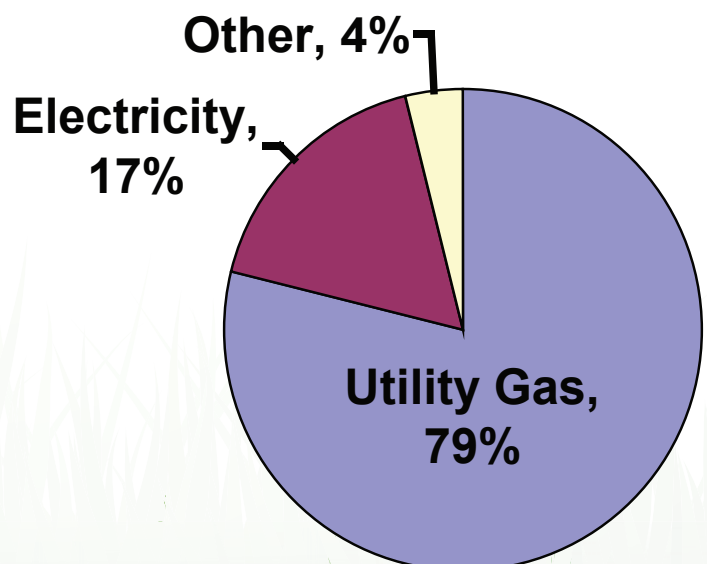
- Recycles more than 60% of construction waste
- Uses recycled cups and filtered water
- Uses Energy Star rated appliances in homes
- Installs low flow toilets in each home unit
- Uses 2.3 kw solar systems on each home
- Uses recycled, non-formaldehyde insulation
- Uses low-VOC paints
- Uses lighting systems with sensors in homes
- Uses water-conserving turf in landscaping
- Harmony is at platinum level recognition by the California State Utility Commission

Estimated Yearly Cost Savings

- \$143,100 in electricity bills for the 53 home Harmony community

Home Heating Fuel Used in Fontana, CA

The fuel most commonly used to heat homes in the City of Fontana is natural gas (79%) followed by electricity (17%). This data is from the website city-data.com. The Harmony community in Fontana has nearly eliminated their electricity bills by using solar energy.



What Actions Did CenterStone Communities Take to Save Energy?

CenterStone installs Energy Star rated appliances, low flow toilets, weather smart irrigation sensors and low-e glass dual paned windows in every home. The insulation used is made of recycled materials, and model homes have special outdoor lighting systems that have sensors to only come on in the evenings.

What Actions Did CenterStone Communities Take to Cut Waste?

Most new home communities offer bottled water to prospects, but CenterStone uses recycled cups and filtered water in an effort to avoid plastic water bottle use. CenterStone recycles more than 60% of their construction waste, reducing the amount of building material sent to the landfill.

What are the Results to CenterStone's Actions?

Each of CenterStone's homes features 50 energy and water conserving systems. Each house is over 20% more efficient than the standard production house, without the use of solar energy. CenterStone built photovoltaic (PV) solar panels onto each home's roof making them even more energy efficient. CenterStone Community homes are typically built to out perform the California's Title 24 Energy Code by more than 17% to 42%.

How Have CenterStone Communities' Efforts Been Recognized?

CenterStone's business achievements are numerous. CenterStone holds an annual Earth Day event at its Harmony project. Harmony annually hosts the Build It Green GreenPoint Certified training and testing exam at its site.

CenterStone Communities has shown that building community homes can be a green, environmentally-friendly business. As the economy improves, CenterStone hopes to hire additional employees to keep up with the construction demand within their undeveloped sites.

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"Harmony was truly a milestone in our County and it has set the precedent for more energy-efficient neighborhoods."

-Paul Biane
Supervisor, Second District
Board of Supervisors, San Bernardino County

Photo Credit: Applied Photography Inc.



Homes in the Harmony community (shown above) are built to be at least 20% more efficient than the standard production house.

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