



Remodeling your home as well as your landscape?

See the Green Home Remodel series for tips. You'll find them online at www.seattle.gov/sustainablebuilding or call

(206) 615-0731 for paper copies.



rethink remodel

Green landscape remodeling requires a new approach to the remodeling process, with more initial planning to take advantage of opportunities that might be otherwise missed with a conventional approach. This includes expanding your list of objectives as well as the way you compare the price of products—taking wide-angle and long-term views of decisions. It also means being willing to invest time and energy to find solutions that best fit your needs. And finally, it means approaching your project with health and safety as priorities. This advance planning will pay large dividends in terms of long-term satisfaction and cost containment.

Outdoor space expands your living area without the hassle and expense of adding square footage to your home. Requiring no heating or cooling, this “outdoor room” addition is easier on the environment. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that on average, Americans spend more than 90% of their lives indoors, and that indoor air is often four times as polluted as outdoor air. So consider outdoor living an investment in your health, as well as in your home’s value!

Decide What You Want

Planning a landscape remodel can elicit equal parts excitement and terror. Where do you begin? Generally, the more you can stick with the existing landscape’s features, the less you’ll spend on your project. By identifying your priorities and considering options carefully, you can make sure that your landscape material choices meet your goals. Consider the following when determining your landscape project objectives: