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FIRST MODULAR LEED CERTIFIED MAINE HOME TO BE BUILT

The first LEED certified modular home in Maine will be built in Kittery through a partnership between Keiser Homes and Coastline Homes.

Keiser Homes of Oxford, Maine and Coastline Homes, with locations in both Ellsworth and Hollis, Maine, are proud to announce that together they will be building the first LEED modular home in Maine. The home will be located in the Fuller Brook eco-community in Kittery after being built at Keiser Homes' modular home manufacturing facility in Oxford. The home is being built for Coastline Homes, of Ellsworth and Hollis, which spearheaded the project – buying the land, preparing the site in a manner that minimizes the environmental impact of the home, and specifying the components to be incorporated into the home.

Leadership in Engineering and Environmental Design (LEED) “is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings...LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.”¹ LEED is the most recognized green building certification program and is widely accepted as the gold standard for environmentally friendly construction.

As part of the building process, Keiser Homes will follow Energy Star approved construction methods, including highly insulated walls and ceilings, which will significantly decrease (20% +/-) the energy required to heat and cool the home. In addition to the Energy Star components, additional steps to be taken by Keiser in the construction of the LEED home will include installation of water conserving plumbing fixtures, the use of Argon insulated windows, and energy efficient appliances and lighting fixtures. Credit towards LEED certification is also given to the significantly reduced construction waste inherent to the modular building process when compared to most on-site building practices. In addition, work done on site at the direction of Coastline homes will provide for a fully insulated foundation, drought tolerant landscaping designed to minimize the impact on the site's natural growth, and a high efficient, on-demand hot water boiler for heating and domestic hot water. Furthermore, the home will be the first to be built in the Fuller Brook Eco-Community, a development whose goal is to “work in partnership with nature using the best of knowledge and technology to [a] create warm, comfortable living experience.”²

Keiser Homes and Coastline Homes are excited to be building the first LEED certified modular home for the people of Maine. By the nature of modular building, this first home sets the stage for any number of future LEED certified homes to be built using the knowledge and lessons learned in building this first home. In addition, during this time of rising oil prices and increased concerns about global warming, Keiser and Coastline have provided a way for homeowners to align their interests with the collective interests of society and the environment, as well as a home the owners can enjoy and the community can be proud of. Coastline and Keiser have again partnered in a manner that exemplifies their mottos that “It's Time You Think Outside the Box” to “Find a Better Way Home”.

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¹ U.S. Green Building Council, “What is LEED”, USGBC: LEED Rating Systems <http://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=222>, accessed July 11, 2008

² Fuller Brook Estates, LLC., “Fuller Brook Eco-Community”, <http://eco-community.org/>, accessed July 14, 2008