Macon Electric Cooperative
Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

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Recommendations for New Home Construction

(also applicable to major remodeling and renovations)

- Use cellulose or foam insulation.
  - **R-49** or greater in the attic or ceiling space
  - **R-19** or greater in the exterior walls
  - **R-13** or greater in foundation walls (basement/crawlspace)
  - **R-25** or greater in exterior floors
  - **R-8** or greater on the edge of slab foundation
- Insure that the rim joist is air sealed and insulated (**R-19** recommended).
- Install Energy Star® Windows and Doors.
- Take extra precautions to insure that the windows and doors are properly installed and the perimeter of the windows and doors are air sealed.
- Install a Ground Source Heat Pump heating and cooling system.
- If you have any of your heating/cooling system ductwork in an unconditioned area, be sure that it is air sealed and insulated. It is our recommendation to make every effort to have all heating/cooling equipment and ductwork within the conditioned space.
- Purchase a high efficiency water heater and wrap all accessible water pipes.
- Purchase Energy Star® appliances and electronics whenever possible.
- If you are putting in a wood burning fireplace (not recommended) take extra precautions to insure you have a good damper system with a gasket seal to avoid unnecessary heat loss.
- Limit the number of recessed lights you install throughout the home. Be sure that you take extra precautions to properly air seal any recessed lights that you choose to have installed.
- If you install a whole house fan (not recommended) take extra precautions to insure it is properly air sealed and insulated.
- Purchase exhaust fans with air tight housing to prevent unwanted air infiltration.
- Take extra precautions to air seal around all plumbing, electrical, cable/satellite and telephone lines that may enter the house.
- Purchase and install energy efficient lighting fixtures and bulbs that carry an Energy Star® label.
- Keep the orientation of your home and your home's windows and doors in mind – it can make a big impact on the energy efficiency of your home. Try to limit the number of windows and doors facing west and maximize the number of windows and doors facing south. This will help eliminate heat gain during the summer and maximize heat gain during the winter when it is helpful.