



THE HOUSE THAT GREEN BUILT



The Home Builders Association of Greater Little Rock (HBAGLR) is constructing its first ever GREEN BUILT model home.

The house is located in west Little Rock's Woodland's Edge, the 2009 Green Development of the Year. The project is a sustainable construction set to ANSI-approved National Green Building Standards. The standards state: "a builder, remodeler or developer must incorporate a minimum number of features in the following areas: energy, water and resource efficiency, lot and site development, indoor environment quality and homeowner education."

Trim work — the hanging of crown and floor moldings as well as doors and more — was next on the agenda at 14007 Foxfield Lane. Rough-ins for the electrical and plumbing await their outlets as the home enters its final stages of construction.

The heart of most homes, the kitchen, has been outfitted with an abundance of storage space thanks to Arnold Cabinets. A corner cabinet features a carousel, which will make access easy. The floor cabinets have been set on railing, versus the standard kickboard/toeplate construction, adding aesthetic value.

"We also stepped the cabinets up and down, in and out to add interest and depth," said Keith Wingfield, co-project coordinator and president of the HBAGLR. MDF was

used on the cabinet fronts. "We're planning to paint the cabinets and apply a finish to create an aged look. This way, we're not cutting down trees."

The drawers are all slow-close, making them virtually impossible to slam. The breakfast bar will house the sink and dishwasher, and the vent hood will be enclosed.

The cans for recessed lighting have been installed throughout, and Progress Lighting and ProBuilder Supply will provide energy-efficient LED lights.

According to Wingfield, after heating and cooling, lighting makes up the biggest expense in homeowners' energy costs. The great room also features audio speakers in the ceiling; Arnold Audio will provide this feature.

The GREEN BUILT home will open in September. One of the next decisions that must be made: what material will be used to construct the deck. Wingfield said Arkansas produces an abundance of southern yellow pine, making it a regional material.

"However, sustainability is an issue with any product that is used in an outdoor environment. Composite material is ideal, but can be expensive ... so we're debating on that issue."

Read *AY* each month as we update you on its progress; we'll be sure to let you know what material is used to build the rear deck. ■



Check *AY* each month, as we'll feature monthly updates through the completion of the GREEN BUILT home.