



# Home Sweet Zero Energy Home: What It Takes to Develop Great Homes that Won't Cost Anything to Heat, Cool or Light Up, Without Going Broke or Crazy

*Barry Rehfeld*

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Zero energy homes produce at least as much energy as they consume through a combination of energy efficiencies, passive design, and renewable energy production. California has adopted zero net energy as the new residential standard for 2020; many other governments are considering similar policies. Developing zero energy homes is the first step towards making all buildings zero energy—a critical step in mitigating climate change, since buildings account for forty percent of material and energy use worldwide.

*Home Sweet Zero Energy Home* is the first practical guidebook that clearly shows how zero energy homes can be good, livable, affordable homes. The author identifies all the pieces of the zero energy puzzle and how they fall into place, and explains how homeowners and buyers can also take smaller steps towards sharply reducing the energy use of existing buildings. Focusing on real costs and savings, this book takes an in-depth look at:

- Site selection and passive design
- Insulation, windows, doors, and building materials
- Heating and cooling
- Appliances and electronics
- Financial resources and incentives

Whether you are a prospective buyer, owner, or developer, *Home Sweet Zero Energy Home* is your complete guide to creating a more comfortable, efficient, environmentally friendly home without breaking your back or your bank account.

**Barry Rehfeld** has been a journalist for over thirty years and is the founder of the website *Zero Energy Intelligence*, where he writes about everything you need to know to build, buy, or renovate a home that produces as much energy as it uses.

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