

Is It Worth It?

Ways To Green Your Home That Pay You Back

There are lots of ways folks in Philly can green their home.

Almost anything to reduce energy usage will benefit the environment, but several things can save homeowners money and improve the resale value of the home.

The experts at Solo Real Estate weigh in on green investments that pay you back now, and when it's time to sell.

NEW WINDOWS

Cost: \$200+ for Energy Star windows

Return: Save: \$126-\$465/ year when replacing single-pane windows and \$27-\$111 a year over double-pane windows.

Tip: On average, homeowners recoup 80% of the cost of replacement windows when they sell

EFFICIENT DRYER

Cost: \$150-\$400 premium over standard/non HE dryer

Return :\$200 in life of the product, typically 10 years. If your current washer/dry is over 10 years old, you can save 135/yr by upgrading to an energy efficient model

Fact: Line drying is the most efficient of all, and saves \$200/yr

WATER TEMP

Cost: \$0

Return: Turning the setting from 140 to 120 degrees can save 10% off annual energy costs

Fact: The default setting on most water heaters is 140 degrees (a shower that could result in burns!) though the Dept. of Energy recommends the default set to 120

GREEN ROOF

Cost: \$15-20/sq foot

Return: 25% energy savings. On a summer day a green roof can be up to 60 degrees cooler than a conventional roof.

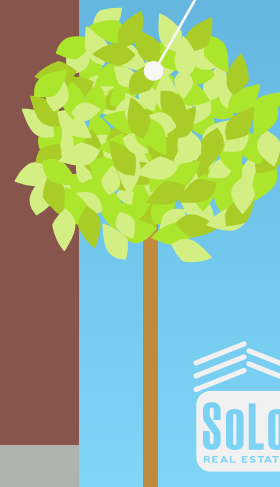
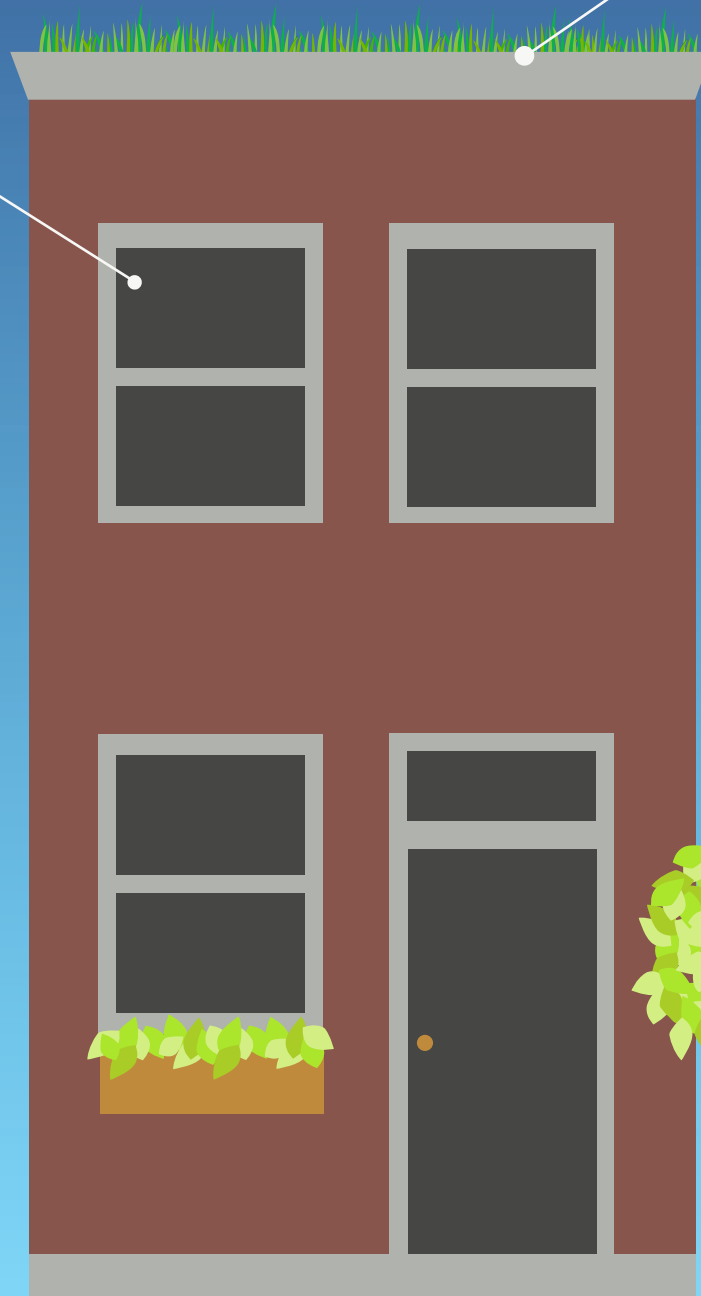
Tip: We use (& recommend) philadelphiagreenroofs.com !

STREET TREE

Cost: \$0 (Visit treephilly.org to request a free street tree!)

Return: Street trees can add between 3% - 15% to home values

Tip: Beyond adding value to an individual home, trees benefit entire neighborhoods: cleaning air, capturing rainwater, and reducing cooling costs



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