

Universal Design & Green Home Survey Checklist

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We developed this checklist in conjunction with the Washington Court Housing Survey, a report on universal design and accessibility in affordable housing, www.uiowa.edu/legalclinic. It is designed for use by consumers, architects, developers, realtors and other stakeholders interested in designing and building livable, energy-efficient homes and apartments that people of all ages and abilities can use, enjoy and adapt to suit their changing needs. Our goal is to promote independent living, safety, comfort, convenience and conservation of energy and natural resources. A few words, cautions, and disclaimers are in order.

Think Family: Try to anticipate the children and adults who might live, own, rent or visit the residence. People come in all shapes, sizes, and abilities -- tall, short, lean, hefty; so do our pets and service animals.

Think Ahead: Consider your current and future needs, resources, budget, and health.

Think Green: Be energy conscious when you design, build, and occupy the home. Conserve heat, water, electricity, and energy to reduce your utility bills and protect the environment. Recycle and reuse materials and buy local whenever possible. For ease of use, we have marked all of the Green Features with an asterisk *

Do Not Think Disability, Wheelchairs or Ramps. But keep in mind that our lives -- and your family's lives -- could change in an instant without warning because of accident, injury or aging.

Do Not Think ADA, Fair Housing Act or Other Accessibility Guidelines. Most of these standards do not apply to private homes and address mobility and vision impairments primarily. They provide only minimum standards that too often do not reflect the real world needs of most people with and without disabilities.

Keep In Mind the Magic Numbers. Your home should at least meet the minimum dimensions in these accessibility codes: www.hud.gov/offices/fheo/disabilities/accessibilityR.cfm and www.access-board.gov/adaag/about/.

- 36 inches: width of an accessible route, path, sidewalk or hallway
- 32 inches: width of the interior opening for all doors (clear passage)
- 30 by 48: space needed for a standard wheelchair expressed in inches
- 60 by 60: maneuvering room needed for a standard wheelchair expressed in inches or 5 feet by 5 feet
- 28 to 34: finished tabletop or countertop heights for accessibility expressed in inches
- 27 to 29: knee clearance measured from finished floor to bottom of desk, table, etc. expressed in inches
- 15 to 48: minimum and maximum height for controls, outlets, shelves, items expressed in inches
- 1: 12: maximum slope of ramps expressed in a ratio (1 inch of rise per 12 inches in length)
- 1: 48: maximum slope of parking spaces, access aisles, etc. expressed in a ratio or a percentage (2%)

One Size Does Not Fit All: No two people are alike. We cook, bathe, socialize, study, play, learn, and live differently. This checklist is not intended to address how to modify or customize a home, room, or feature for a particular person's disability, special need, or functional limitation.

Think Beyond: This checklist is not intended to be comprehensive, and no single checklist or source can provide all of the information you need. Please refer to the checklists, websites, and other information in the Washington Court Housing Survey, www.uiowa.edu/legalclinic, 19 *Journal of Affordable Housing* 191 (2010)

Using This Checklist: Take this checklist, a clipboard, a pen or pencil, and a tape measure with you around your home. Check all of the features and amenities present in each room. The checklist begins with the outside of the home, but you may start wherever you like.

Looking From The Outside In:

- Gently-sloped, obstacle-free path from public transportation, sidewalks, parking or garage to step free entrances
- Movement-sensor/Motion-sensor lighting along walkway as well as additional exterior lighting *
- Address numbers are easy to see from a distance and are illuminated or reflective for easy night visibility

Entryway

- No-step entrances -- preferably at front, garage and other primary entrances
- Rails or supports at stepped entrances when needed
- Maneuvering space at each entrance: five feet by five feet six feet by six feet
- Nonslip surfaces on walk and driveways with ice and snow melt systems
- Covered entry or overhang to protect against weather
- Saturated lighting, ambient lighting and lighting focused on the front door and keyhole
- Shelf or bench for packages, keys and other items
- Mail slot or mail box is conveniently located, and is easy to reach and use for both letters and packages
- Doorbell is back-lit, easy to reach and has visual and audible cues
- Intercom system is hardwired to landline phone or linked to cell phone or other systems
- At least 18 inches of space at the latch side of the entry door

Entry Door(s)

- Three foot wide (3'-0" or 36") door with low or no threshold
- Door with swing hinges provides at least 32 inches of clear passage space when open
- Power-assist door and touchplates to open the door
- Kickplate on the door extends 10 to 11 inches from the bottom
- Keyless or remote entry systems and security systems with visual and audible alarms
- Rough in and pre-wire door and entry for future installation of power door and touch plates *

- Security wide angle peephole with a 132° - 200° viewing angle set at eye level or at 60 inches (standard), or multiple peepholes at various heights
- Sidelight security window that is full-length
- Keyhole is backlit
- Lever style door handle/hardware

General Interior

- Open floor plan
- If another floor plan is used, the use of interior load bearing walls is limited to allow future renovations
- Locate the main kitchen, one bathroom, laundry and one bedroom (or space for a bed) on the ground floor or accessible floor
- Hallway Width: 42 inches 44 inches 46 inches
- Products and finishes are low maintenance and easy to clean
- Reinforced ceiling for future installation of lift with a 600 pound capacity

Doors

- Door Width: 34 inches with 32 inch clear interior width 36 inches
- Lever style hardware
- Low- or no-threshold
- No more than 5 pounds of force is needed to open or close doors
- At least 18 inches of space at the latch side of door
- Different colors and textures mark transitions between door jambs and walls
- Pocket doors open and close with minimal force and have easy-to-use hardware

Flooring

- Floors are smooth, durable, slip-resistant and non-glare
- Durable, low pile carpet (less than ½ inch thick), is low density and on top of a firm pad -- fragrance-free
- Different colors and textures mark transitions between surfaces and rooms
- Low to no Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) materials*

Windows

- Viewing window sills no higher than: 32 inches 30 inches 26 inches 23 inches
- Windows are lightweight and either: Crank operated Power operated
- Rough-in and pre-wire for remote-operated window

* Green Feature

- Casement, awning, hopper or jalousie style windows, which can be easier to use, but should be checked for energy efficiency

Hardware

- All interior door handles are lever style
- Handle pulls on drawers and cabinets are D or loop-shaped
- Touch latches are magnetic
- Power door push plates are located where needed

Lighting and Electrical

- General, indirect and task specific lighting is fluorescent and Energy Star rated*
- Light fixtures with electronic ballasts and linear or compact fluorescent bulbs placed to reduce glare*
- Wall outlets at varied heights: 18 inches 20 inches 22 inches
- Telephone jacks at varied heights: 18 inches 20 inches 22 inches
- Rocker style light switches are easily reached, large, illuminated and mounted 39 to 44 inches above finished floor measured to the center of the switch
- Light switches are located at the entrance of each room and are within easy reach
- Thermostat has a large backlit digital display and is easy to operate with a large keypad
- Thermostat mounted above the finished floor: 40 inches 42 inches 43 inches 44 inches
- Vacancy sensor/automatic-off switches in laundry, bathrooms and closets for lights, fans, etc.*
- Motion sensor lights in bathrooms*
- Strategically placed photocell lighting between bedrooms and bathrooms for wayfinding*
- Skylights and light tubes incorporate natural light*

Closets and Storage

- Half of all storage space located less than 48 inches above the finished floor
- Closet rods and shelves can be adjusted to different heights
- Shelving units that seated user can access and reach
- Electrical outlets in master bedroom closet and other closets for environmental and personal needs equipment*
- Power operated clothing carousels in closets

* Green Feature

Safety and Security

- Smoke, Fire and Carbon monoxide alarms with visual and audible alarms are hard-wired with battery backup
- Security alarm with visual and audible alarms
- Movement-sensor lighting along walkway and additional exterior lighting
- Home is wired for security to alert police, fire and emergency responders
- Security/Intercom system allows monitoring of all systems from a TV, the internet, or handheld devices
- Wall mounted phone outlets in the bathroom, kitchen and laundry for convenience and safety
- Voice-activated, sound-activated, light-activated and motion-activated devices as needed
- CO₂ and other exhaust fans in the garage

Kitchen

Circulation and Floor Plan

- U or L shaped floor plan
- Floor space is unobstructed for easy work and traffic flow
- Circulation route widths: 40 inches 42 inches 44 inches
- Maneuvering space: five feet by five feet six feet by six feet
- Hard flooring materials are water-resistant and easy to clean and maintain
- Visual barriers, cabinet fronts, etc. work to conceal kitchen essentials and mess
- Maneuvering space at each work station of at least 30 inches by 48 inches

Cabinetry and Storage

- Storage is open, visible, flexible and available at the point of use
- Cook-top and adjacent countertop are flush and level at 34 inches above the finished floor
- Cabinets with removable or slide back hinged doors and removable sub-base to permit clear space or storage underneath:
 - Cook-top Sink Kitchen Island Food prep area
- Cabinets beneath the sink and cook-top are a finished 30" wide x 30" high x 24" deep
- Some upper cabinets are mounted 14 or 15 inches above the countertop instead of the standard 18 inches
- Additional electrical outlets are strategically placed under upper cabinets
- Drawers and shelving at varied heights with pull-out full extension tracks
- Lazy Susan or other similar storage in corner cabinets

* Green Feature

- Handles on all cabinets are easy to grasp and use (D or loop shaped handles)
- Cabinets are adaptable and provide knee space under work surface areas and near appliances
- Hinges swing open to 170 degrees
- Glass doors on upper cabinets for better content visibility
- Roll-out carts stored under the cabinet, sink or other features
- Lower cabinets have a toe kick area (9 to 12 inches high and up to 6 inches deep for turning)
- Spice and towel racks pull out from strategically located cabinets
- Pull-out work board(s) near: Oven Refrigerator Microwave
- Cabinets constructed from non-toxic materials*

Countertops

- Durable and easy to clean and maintain
- Countertops at varied heights: 30 inches 34 inches 36 inches 40 inches 42 inches
- Countertops adjacent to the oven and cook-top are made of heat resistant materials, or a heat resistant pad is used between the stove and countertops
- Countertops have rounded or beveled edges
- Counter space on both sides of cook-top
- Countertops on at least one side of the refrigerator and oven
- Countertops are at least 30 inches wide
- Countertops are no more than 24 inches deep
- Countertops constructed from non-toxic materials*
- Countertops next to dishwasher, stove, etc. are flush with appliance's center or top rack
- Countertops, cabinets and cabinet bases have contrasting colors to provide visual cues

Sink and Water Systems

- Single-lever faucet mounted at the side of a low profile sink (or ADA packet sink)*
- Anti-scald valve or device set at 120 degrees maximum*
- Basin sink with offset rear drains no deeper than: 7 inches deep 6 inches deep 5 inches deep
- Pipes and garbage disposal are offset and mounted near the back of the sink
- Water lines insulated to prevent heat loss and burns*

* Green Feature

- Pot filler and water line at cook-top if distant from the sink
- Water filtration devices and systems are easy to reach and use *

Lighting

- Fluorescent or LED lights with electronic ballasts under upper cabinets *
- Saturating fluorescent, recessed lights or surface lighting fixtures, with electronic ballasts and compact fluorescent bulbs *
- Varied light sources and types, with reduced glare
- Dimmer switches for adjustable lighting
- Preset lighting options *
- Movement sensors where appropriate *
- Light switches are luminous rocker style

Appliances

- Oven: self-cleaning, convection, with controls located no higher than:
 - 46 inches
 - 52 inches (double stack oven)
- Oven's center or top rack is level with adjacent countertop
- Dishwasher raised 8 to 10 inches above floor with top rack aligned parallel to countertop
- Refrigerator and/or freezer: Side-by-side model with water and ice dispensers mounted on the door and pull-out adjustable shelves
- Refrigerator and/or freezer: Bottom-freezer may provide greater access to contents
- Refrigerator and/or freezer with doors that open 160 to 180 degrees
- Controls for exhaust fan and lights mounted in front of countertop near stove/oven
- Controls for disposal located towards the front of the countertop near the sink
- All appliances have front controls that are easy to reach, see and operate:
 - Cook-top
 - Oven
 - Dishwasher
 - Refrigerator
 - Microwave
 - Exhaust Fan
 - Garbage Disposal
 - Other
- Safety shut-offs and multiple cues on all appliances
- Garbage disposal switch is spring-loaded so that it must be held to remain on
- Exhaust fan runs quietly with sufficient capacity, and is Energy Star rated *

- Side hinged appliances: Oven Microwave
- Top loading (drop-down) microwave mounted beneath the countertop

Custom Power Features

- Power sink that raises or lowers with push of front mounted controls with a kill switch (such as AD•AS)
- Power cabinets that raise or lower with front mounted controls with a kill switch

Miscellaneous

- Ceiling fans and lights operated with remote device or rocker style back-lit light switch
- Desk built into the kitchen with data port, cable connection and outlets for office or personal use

Bathroom

Circulation and Floor Plan

- Maneuvering space: five feet by five feet six feet by six feet
- T-shaped room: three feet by five feet four feet by six feet
- Circulation routes at least 40 inches wide to get to the bathroom
- Walls reinforced with ¾ inch plywood/wood blocking for later grab bar installation near the:
 - Toilet Bathtub Shower Sink
- Flooring is slip-resistant and all surfaces are durable and easy to clean and maintain *
- High volume inline exhaust fan that is quiet and on an automatic sensor *
- Fixtures are self cleaning or easy to maintain: Sink/Faucet Showerhead Toilet

Personal Grooming

- Vanity is Euro style with European style hinges, and adapts to provide clear space and knee space beneath with removable, adjustable shelving, and a removable sub-base
- Full length mirror extending at least 72 inches above the finished floor
- Medicine cabinet should be easy to access from either a standing or seated position and should preferably be located to the side of the vanity (consider mounting with swing-up hinges)

Bathroom Sink

- Single lever faucet with anti-scald valve or device set at 120 degree maximum *
- Countertop sink with bowl placed close to the front edge

* Green Feature

- Sink and vanity cabinets with recessed or removable doors and adjustable shelving to provide open space or storage underneath 30 inches wide by 30 inches high
- Wall hung sink

Cabinetry and Storage

- Cabinets adapt to provide clear space and knee space beneath with removable/adjustable shelving
- Point of use, easily accessible and adaptable storage
- Lower cabinets with a toe kick area (9 to 12 inches high with sufficient space underneath for turning)
- Storage provided at various heights, with half of all storage located lower than 48 inches
- Hooks and hoops are utilized for storage
- Waste basket beneath or alongside sink or vanity

Toilet

- Toilet is elongated 16-1/2 to 17-1/2 inches
- Toilets are 17 to 19 inches from the floor for greater comfort
- Toilet is centered at least 18 inches from a wall allowing grab bars to be within easy reach but far enough from the wall to permit access using a wheelchair
- If in an alcove or compartment, provide an option to open the space up for greater access

Bathing and Shower Facilities

- Shower Unit: Combination tub/shower unit Wet room
 No-step or low-step shower
- Shower Size: 36" x 36" 36" x 48" 36" x 60" Larger
- Controls located to minimize stooping, bending and reaching
- Low- or no-threshold entry
- Anti-scald valve set at 120 degree maximum *
- Fixed showerhead and detachable handheld showerhead with a 6 foot flexible hose on vertical slider bar
- Single lever shower control mounted near the shower entry and 40 to 45 inches from finished floor but 43 inches preferred *
- Seat or bench in the shower
- Additional controls within reach of shower seat or bench

* Green Feature

- Grab bars or wall backing for future installation
- High volume, inline exhaust fan that is quiet and on an automatic sensor *

Bathtub

- Bathtub has a non-slip bottom
- Controls located to minimize stooping, bending and reaching
- Lever type controls that are offset near tub entry
- Anti-scald valve set at 120 degrees maximum *
- Grab bars or wall backing for future installation
- Two-foot long platform at end of tub to permit easy entry or transfer, or to place toiletries

Lighting & Electrical

- Saturated fluorescent and task lighting from varied sources with adjustable controls *
- Sufficient shielded light to prevent shadows at vanity while grooming
- Electrical outlets within reach at the point of use
- Linear or compact fluorescent fixtures with electronic ballasts *
- Movement sensor lighting *
- Backlit rocker style light switches for night navigation

Bedrooms

- Saturated fluorescent and task lighting from varied sources with adjustable controls *
- Ceiling fan/light combo units are Energy Star rated *
- Ceiling fan/light combo units are operated by: Remote control Rocker style switch
- Closets with adjustable shelving and clothing rods at varied heights
- Fluorescent lighting in all walk-in closets with switch located just outside the closet doors *
- Walk-in or roll-in closets
- Closet doors are at least 36 inches wide
- Clear space of at least 36 inches on two sides of the bed
- Clear space of 60 inches next to the closet
- Additional electrical outlets throughout the room and near the bed to accommodate medical or other equipment
- Telephone jacks, internet and other connections located near the bed

* Green Feature

- Wall backing next to the bed and elsewhere *
- Reinforced ceilings to allow future installation of lifts or devices with 600 pound capacity *

Laundry and Utility Room

- Laundry and utility room located on the main floor near the bathrooms and bedrooms
- Washer and dryer are front loaders with controls on the front; a top loading washer is acceptable
- Front loading washer and dryer are mounted 9 to 10 inches above the finished floor
- Controls and dispensers are easy to read, reach and operate
- When placed side to side, front loading washer is to the left and dryer is to the right for easy transfer of laundry
- Floor drain or drain pan under the washer
- Sink and some countertops are no more than 34 inches above finished floor with space underneath
- Space saving folding table
- Wheeled carts

Decks

- Doors are easy to open, close and lock and provide a minimum of 32 inches for clear passage
- Low or no threshold between home interior and deck
- Sliding doors and screens should provide at least 32 inches of clear passage when opened completely
- Decking is slatted to allow for easy drainage

Stairways

- Low-rise, wide stairs with high traction surfaces
- Stair treads: 8 inches deep 10 inches deep 12 inches deep
- Stair rise is between 7 and 8 inches high
- Stair treads do not stick out past the riser (unless required by code, then, use “cant strip” stair design)
- Stairway width: 42 inches 44 inches 46 inches 48 inches (for incline lift)
- Install stairway lift or rough-in, pre-wire and provide backing and support for future lift *
- Install elevator or anticipate future installation by stacking two closets on top of one another *
- Anti-slip strips on the front edge of steps with color contrasting materials

Driveways and Garages

- Driveways and garages are flat on grade level with the accessible entrance level
- Power operated overhead doors
- Kickplate on garage door extends 10 to 11 inches from the bottom
- Eight feet high clearance or alternate on-site parking for tall vehicles
- Five to eight feet of space available between spaces for an accessible van and a car
- CO₂ exhaust fans and other ventilation *
- Sensor lighting focused on the aisle or path between vehicles *

Ramps (If you must have one)

- No more than 1 inch of rise for every 14 inches of length or a 1:14 ratio; 1:16 preferred
- Landings are 5 feet by 5 feet at all entrances
- Integrated into the overall design and landscaping

Water Conservation

- Appliances are Energy Star rated to use less water *
- Toilets are of the low water use variety *
- Sink and shower faucets are low flow *
- Roof and impermeable surfaces have a rainwater collection system for landscape irrigation *
- Water-permeable paving system to allow groundwater to be absorbed *
- Overhangs on the roof are at least 24 inches *

Energy Efficiency

- Orientation to the sun as a passive solar home *
- Windows are energy efficient and provide the home with plentiful light during daylight hours *
- Solar panels are placed on the home exterior *
- Passive solar to allow sun in during winter months and shield home during summer *
- Raised heel roof trusses for better insulation and energy efficiency *
- Well ventilated attic space with solar powered vent fans *
- Windows are treated for energy efficiency *
- Insulation is high efficiency and located throughout all walls, ceiling and attic *

* Green Feature

- Soybean foam insulation made in selected areas *
- Water heater is tankless with heat exchanger unit installed between the compressor and heater *
- Foundation walls are cast-in-place concrete and are styrofoam insulated or an insulated concrete form system, foam-in under roof, rather than just insulation *
- Lighting and appliances are Energy Star rated *
- Temperature controls divide the home into multiple zones *
- Heat pump with energy efficient HVAC System *
- Geothermal system with sealed ductwork *
- Fireplace or wood burner is high performance and vented with a combustion air intake *
- Mechanical fresh air heat exchanger ventilation system with carbon monoxide detectors *

Indoor Air Quality

- Foundation and floor are moisture controlled *
- Air sealing and advanced insulation techniques are utilized *
- Heating systems are energy efficient and sealed *
- Air filtration is high efficiency *
- Whole house ventilation system *
- Radon detection devices or mitigation system *
- Construction products and all material selected for low or no volatile organic compounds (VOCs) *

Acknowledgements and Resource Guide

The University of Iowa Clinical Law Program wishes to acknowledge the individuals and organizations that have been instrumental in developing and promoting guidelines, recommendations, and checklists for universal design and sustainable features in residential and other facilities. We have learned from, valued, and utilized their expertise when developing these materials. The Student Legal Interns on the project team who contributed most to this checklist are Andrew Ward, Scott Burrill, David Milender, Abby Van Harpen, Tom Reuland, Sara Stephenson, Trent Norman, and Reuben Ortega.

Iowa City's Universal Design Model Home at 1821 B Street: Visit the web page or tour this award-winning home to see basic and state of the art universal design features. The city's web page includes pictures, floor plans, elevations, checklists and links to other sources about this award-winning home. Materials on the B Street Home are available online at <http://www.icgov.org/default/?id=1169>

Video Tour of Universal Design Complex: The City of Dubuque posted a video that chronicles the 759 Bluff Street Project which involved Step By Step, Inc. and the UI Legal Clinic. Available at http://cityofdubuque.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?publish_id=155

Home Modifications Listserv: Post questions to professionals who can answer nearly every question about construction, equipment and solutions, with special thanks to Wally Dutcher. Visit the website at <http://listserv.buffalo.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=HOMEMODIFICATIONS-LIST>

The Practical Guide to Universal Home Design: Tour your home to make it livable and barrier-free. Visit <http://www.uiowa.edu/infotech/universalthomedesign.htm> Iowa Program for Assistive Technology (UI Center for Disabilities and Development) or call 800.779.2001 or 319.353.8777

The North Carolina State University's Center for Universal Design evaluates, develops, and promotes universal design in residential housing, and in public and commercial facilities. Write to Campus Box 8613, Raleigh, NC 27695-8613, call 800.647.6777, or visit the center's website at <http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/>

ToolBase Services: Aging-In-Place Design Checklists provide builders and contractors with information for both new construction projects as well as remodeling options for the general consumer. Call 800.647.6777 or visit the website at <http://www.toolbase.org>

Access For Everyone: A Guide to the Accessibility of Buildings and Sites with References to ADAAG: Dr. Arvid E. Osterberg and Donna J. Kain, Ph.D.; Iowa State University. Visit the website at www.fpm.iastate.edu/accessforeveryone/default.asp

Smart Design Livable Homes: Shared Solutions America, Great Ideas for Better Living Checklist provides suggestions, guidelines, and dimension recommendation for home construction and renovations. Visit the website at <http://www.livablehomes.org>

New Home Universal Design Option Checklist: California officials developed a checklist to help prospective homebuyers and builders understand and consider features and amenities to make homes usable and livable for every stage of life. The checklist is online at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/ModelChecklistFinal1-10-07Version.pdf>

American Association of Retired Persons: Provides information and checklists on aging in place. Visit their website at www.aarp.org

* Green Feature

Residential Remodeling and Universal Design: Making Homes More Comfortable and Accessible: This publication includes priority lists, building tips and solutions. It is available through NC State or HUD. Visit http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/pubs_p/docs/residential_remodelinl.pdf

Six North Apartments is one of the first multifamily residential buildings featuring 100 percent universal design. The case study, floor plans and referral information are online at <http://casestudies.uli.org/CaseStudies/C036016.htm> or call Trivers Associates at 314.621.3400

Minimum UD Requirements for New Construction of Affordable Housing: Building code and standards. Visit <http://stlouis.missouri.org/501c/affordablehousingcommission/UD%20Requirements%20Revised%202008.pdf>

REALTOR® Homes for Our Future: Track the progress of an Iowa City home built using universal design and green building practices in 2009. Visit <http://www.icaar.org/future>, call 319.338.6460 or email icaar@icaar.org

Richard Duncan, Mace Universal Design Institute: Dick Duncan has been in the vanguard of universal design initiatives and projects for years. Write to 410 Yorktown Drive Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27516, call 919.960.6734 or email rduncan@udinstitute.org

Energy & Environmental Building Association: The basics of design, construction and comprehensive rehabilitation for residential and small commercial buildings. The site has a host of resources and standards for consumers and professionals. Visit www.eeba.org/resources/index.html

The PATH Guide to Green Building: Easy-to-use Tech Sets and best practices for choosing and using cost-effective technologies and products. Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing's website can be found at <http://www.pathnet.org/>

The Green Home Guide: A one-stop site and primer from the U.S. Green Building Council with articles, checklists, standards and examples of green homes and sustainable communities. Online at http://www.greenhomeguide.org/what_makes_a_green_home/index.html

Concrete Change is a clearinghouse for information concerning the visitability of residential homes, common myths about universal design, and many other issues. Write to them at 600 Dancing Fox Road Decatur, GA 30032, call 404-378-7455 or visit the web site: <http://www.concretechange.org/>

Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access: The Center practices human centered design through research, development, service, dissemination and educational activities. University of Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning. Call 716. 829.3485 or visit <http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/idea/Home/index.asp>

Universal Design for the Home: Great Looking, Great Living Design for All Ages, Abilities, and Circumstances by Wendy A. Jordan. Available online.

Universal Design Living Laboratory: One of the best sources for articles, tips, checklists and solutions for universal design, sustainability and energy efficiency in residential housing. Learn how to work with architects, builders, remodelers and consumers. Visit www.udll.com, call Rosemarie Rossetti, Ph.D. 614.471.6100 or send an email to rosemarie@udll.com

Home Assessment Survey: Dynamic Living Inc offers room-by-room home assessment surveys to help people identify problem areas, plan for a new home or remodel, and provide effective solutions for specific needs and budgets. Visit <http://www.AdaptMy.com/article/home-assessments/> or call (888) 940-0605.