Buying a new home is one of the biggest purchases you'll ever make. By choosing Mark Payne Homes you will enjoy peace of mind knowing it's been built to meet strict energy efficiency. We have made the right decision—for your wallet, for your family, and for the environment—bringing these important benefits: Lower Utility Bills by using less energy for lighting, heating, cooling, and water heating, Mark Payne Homes delivers approximately 40% savings on annual utility bills. Over the 7 to 8 years that a typical family lives in a home, you can save thousands of dollars in maintenance and utility cost.

Blown Cellulose Insulation

At Mark Payne Homes we have chosen blown cellulose insulation for walls. One major benefit of this system is higher R-values and more consistent insulation around outlets and other obstructions that normally create voids when using less advanced insulation systems. This insulation offers an R-Value of 15. R-Value is only one factor to consider when choosing insulation. The performance of an insulation material is also dependent upon reducing heat loss through air infiltration, convection and radiation. Cellulose Insulation reduces air infiltration and convection better than other fiber insulation products with the same R-Value, giving Cellulose insulation superior overall performance. In the attic we use an R-30 blown Fiberglass insulation. The loose fiberglass has a more consistent R-value than Batts, and it's naturally fire resistant. We also use airtight foam on all windows, doors, holes drilled through top plates, and all exterior penetrations. All exterior bottom plates are siliconed prior to insulation being blown in to prevent heat loss or gain. All exterior wall corners and T's are insulated to keep outside air from coming in.

Low-E Vinyl Windows

Low-emissive (Low-E) glass is window glass that has been treated with an invisible metal or metallic oxide coating, creating a surface that reflects heat, while allowing light to pass through. Windows treated with Low-E coatings are proven to reduce energy consumption, decrease fading of fabrics, and increase overall comfort in your home. We utilize Low E (emissivity) glass in all windows. The glass is coated with a protective glazing that helps reflect heat and may reduce the energy loss by as much as 30%–50%. This protection reduces energy costs by preventing sunlight from heating up your home. Vinyl frames are simply a better choice than other materials. It's certainly superior to aluminum, which readily conducts heat and cold making them far less energy efficient. Vinyl becomes the outstanding choice for all these reasons: Low maintenance Great insulating value Strength and durability Beauty and appearance of wood without the hassle of maintaining it.

Efficient AC Systems & Programmable Thermostats

Up to half of the energy used in your home goes to heating and cooling. That is why every Mark Payne Home, features high efficiency 14 SEER Heating and Cooling system equipped with an easy to set

programmable thermostat. Furthering the energy efficiency, the duct seams and connections are sealed with mastic tape to prevent leaks.

How much energy and money can you save by moving from your old air conditioner to a modern, more efficient model? Let's suppose your older air conditioning system had a SEER rating of 9. If you were to upgrade to a Mark Payne Home, SEER 14 air conditioner... you would reduce your power consumption by about 34%.

These thermostats save energy and money on utility bills by allowing residents to set home temperatures according to various different factors. Programmable thermostats supply personal comfort through pre-set temperature levels and are generally more convenient and accurate than manual thermostats. Programmable thermostats are also a plus for the environmentally conscious because they contain no mercury and are eco-friendly.

All bath ventilation is vented to the outside of the home to help reduce internal moisture which helps to keep the home at a more comfortable temperature and humidity.

Radiant Barrier Roof Decking

Mark Payne Homes installs radiant barrier roof decking in each of its homes, which filters out 97% of the radiant heat keeping your attic up to 30 degrees cooler during the summer. This helps reduce energy bills by up to 15% without requiring any maintenance for the life of your home.

Tankless Gas Water Heater (applicable on certain floor plans)

Save Money and More with ENERGY STAR Qualified Whole-Home Gas Tankless Water Heaters By heating water only when you need it, Tankless water heaters save the typical family more than $80 per year, or $1,700 over the lifetime of the water heater, on gas bills compared to a standard storage model. This system reduces your energy bills and provides a continuous supply of hot water to allow you to fill bath tubs without waiting for the hot water supply to replenish.

Circulating Pumps

These Tankless water heaters also feature circulating pumps that help save water as well! The circulating pump gives you instant hot water, you no longer have to let the water run to reach your specified area!

Continuous Hot Water

Tankless water heaters provide a continuous flow of hot water, so there's no need to suffer through a cold shower if you're the last one out of bed. The hot water is always there when you need it.

Fewer Worries

Tankless water heaters have a life expectancy of 15 years, much longer than any conventional tank-type water heater. And with a tankless model, the risk of tank leaks is a thing of the past.

Energy Star Appliances

Today's major appliances do not hog energy the way older models do because they must meet minimum federal energy efficiency standards. These standards have been tightened over the years, so any new appliance you buy today has to use less energy than the model you're replacing. For instance, if you buy one of today's most energy-efficient refrigerators, it will use less than half the energy of a model that's 12 years old or older. Look for the Energy Star® label. Energy Star models are the most energy efficient in any product category, exceeding the energy efficiency minimums set by the federal government. If you remember only one rule when you shop, remember to look for the Energy Star label. Use the Energy Guide label. All new appliances must carry the Energy Guide label, either on the appliance itself or on the packaging. The label allows you to compare the typical annual energy consumption and operating cost of different models of any type of appliance you're thinking of buying.

Natural Gas Heat

Why gas heat? The reason is that heat pumps deliver air at a cool 95 degrees. Because it's lower than body temperature, the air feels cool — a problem which cannot be resolved by turning up the thermostat. In contrast, a natural gas furnace delivers air at a much more comfortable 120 degrees. Electricity is a secondary fuel which means it must be produced from another energy source such as coal, uranium, natural gas or oil. As a result, the delivery of natural gas is 90 percent efficient, compared to only 27 percent for electricity. Use less, save more!

LED Bulbs

Lighting products that have earned the ENERGY STAR deliver exceptional features, while using less energy. LED Light Bulbs save about $6 a year in electricity costs and can save $40 to $135 over its lifetime. They meets strict performance requirements that are tested and certified by a third party Uses about 75% less energy than a traditional incandescent bulb and lasts 10 to 25 times longer. They also produce about 75% less heat, so it's safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling.

Water Saving Plumbing Fixtures

Plumbing fixtures that significantly reduce the amount of water released per use are labeled "low-flow" or "low-flush." These fixtures use just enough water to be effective, saving excess, clean, drinking water that usually goes down the drain. Toilets are one of the main sources of wasted water, accounting for 40 percent of water use in a home with older models using up to six gallons per flush. Faucets and shower

heads are also water-wasting culprits, with shower heads accounting for 18 percent of indoor water use and 37 percent of a home's hot water use. All these things help save water which results in lower water bills!

Our Rain Bird automatic sprinkler system features a rain sensor to help reduce unnecessary watering.

Direct Vent Fireplaces

The direct vent fireplace draws its combustion air from outside while venting to the same outside atmosphere - thereby not consuming warm house air, nor competing with other appliances and furnaces for combustion air. Direct venting also eliminates drafts and heat loss associated with other fireplaces. These fire places have a fan on them that circulates the air in the room around the enclosed box, therefore heating the room.