

# Understanding the role of CertainTeed Form-A-Drain® in meeting Green Building Standards



**B**oth homeowners and municipalities are increasingly savvy to the concept of “green” standards when it comes to building homes. As such, they are more likely to ask about whether the products going into the construction of their living spaces meet green building standards, be they LEED®, NAHB or other local standards.

Along with providing superior drainage and protection against basement water infiltration, CertainTeed’s Form-A-Drain® foundation system lineals are made from 100 percent pre- and post-consumer recycled PVC. That translates into millions of pounds per year of PVC diverted from landfills. In addition to landfill waste reduction, the use of recycled PVC reduces the release of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere that would have occurred if we made our product from virgin PVC.

Form-A-Drain also contributes to the home’s overall indoor quality by providing a vent for harmful radon gas under the basement slab and around the perimeter of the foundation footing.

CertainTeed is committed to using recycled materials, and our product plays a unique role in improving the home environment. Form-A-Drain contributes to LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) project certification points in the Materials and Resources and Indoor Environmental Quality categories. Additionally, when building to the NAHB Model Green Home Building Guidelines, Form-A-Drain contributes to the Resource Efficiency and Indoor Environmental Quality categories.

## LEED

The U.S. Green Building Council developed the LEED Rating System to provide standards for the design, construction and operation of high performance sustainable buildings. CertainTeed, a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, fully supports the LEED program.

For a building to become LEED certified, it must meet certain prerequisites and credit requirements. These points are awarded for green aspects integrated into the building in six categories. For LEED NC (New Construction), the most applicable category to Form-A-Drain is Materials and Resources. For LEED H (Homes), the most applicable category is Indoor Environmental Quality. Individual products cannot be LEED certified, but rather contribute to the overall LEED points obtained on a given project.



CERTAINTEED FORM-A-DRAIN PRODUCT CONTRIBUTIONS TO LEED CREDIT	POSSIBLE POINTS
<b>LEED H Version 1.11a — Indoor Environmental Quality</b>	
<b>Radon Protection, install a radon protection system (credit IEQ9):</b> For homes not in EPA Zone 1, design and build a home with radon resistant construction techniques.	<b>1</b>
<b>LEED NC Version 2.2 — Materials and Resources</b>	
<b>Recycled Content 10% (credit 4.1):</b> Use materials with recycled content that contributes at least 10% based on cost of total value of materials in project. CertainTeed Form-a-Drain contains pre- and post-consumer materials that can contribute to these credits.	<b>1</b>
<b>Recycled Content 20% (credit 4.2):</b> Use materials with recycled content that contributes at least 20% based on cost of total value of materials in project. CertainTeed Form-a-Drain contains pre- and post-consumer materials that can contribute to these credits.	<b>1</b>

## NAHB GREEN HOME BUILDING GUIDELINES

This Washington, D.C.-based trade association focuses on enhancing the climate for housing and the building industry, with an emphasis on the well being of the consumer. Among their guiding principles are resource efficiency and the promotion of indoor environmental quality.

Builders who use CertainTeed Form-A-Drain products can earn points for green building ratings under the NAHB Green Building guidelines.

CERTAINTEED FORM-A-DRAIN PRODUCT CONTRIBUTIONS TO NAHB	POSSIBLE POINTS
<b>Resource Efficiency</b>	
<b>Install a perimeter drain (guideline 2.2.3):</b> Install a perimeter drain for all basement footings sloped to discharge to daylight, dry well, or sump pump.	7
<b>Use recycled-content building materials (guideline 2.4.1):</b> Must use at least two recycled content materials for 3 points. Each additional material will add a point in addition to the 3.	3-5
<b>Use products that contain fewer resources than traditional products (guideline 2.7.1):</b> A project must use resource-efficient materials for at least two different types of components to receive the 3 points.	3
<b>Indoor Environmental Quality</b>	
<b>Prevent radon gas from entering the home (guideline 5.2.5):</b> Install sub-slab de-pressurization system or infrastructure to facilitate future installation of radon mitigation system.	6

## CERTAINTEED FORM-A-DRAIN GREEN FACTS

- Overall pre- and post-consumer recycled content of the Form-A-Drain system components is 92%.
- CertainTeed diverts millions of pounds per year of PVC from landfills for use in Form-A-Drain components.
- The use of recycled PVC in our product has reduced the release of CO<sub>2</sub> from the extraction and processing of raw materials used to create virgin PVC.
- Reduces waste generated on the job site and saves time and money by eliminating the need to install, remove and dispose of footing forms.
- Our manufacturing facility in McPherson, Kansas, has a comprehensive recycling program with a goal of zero waste disposed in a landfill. This same facility also uses a closed loop process to recycle cooling water in the manufacturing process.
- Indoor environmental quality is enhanced by Form-A-Drain, which provides drainage for moisture control in the basement and an effective radon collection system.

*For complete details on the LEED or NAHB rating systems and certification processes, contact your LEED and NAHB professional, or visit [www.usgbc.org/LEED](http://www.usgbc.org/LEED) or [www.nahbrc.org/greenguidelines](http://www.nahbrc.org/greenguidelines). To learn more about CertainTeed Form-A-Drain, please visit <http://foundations.certainteed.com>.*

## ASK ABOUT OUR OTHER CERTAINTEED PRODUCTS:

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