

home more efficient.

It's virtually impossible to turn a centuryold brick bungalow into a LEED-certified, net-zero house-without spending hundreds of thousands of dollars, anyway but that doesn't mean you can't make a few smart updates to vastly improve your home's sustainability factor (and save some cash). We assembled the ultimate green team for advice on how to make your home more efficient. -PATRICK DOYLE



On hot summer days, Colorado's scorching sun will bake your south- and west-facing rooms. A solar-panel awning can do doubleduty: It'll shade your rooms and capture enough energy to power your swamp cooler.



> UPGRADE YOUR THERMOSTAT

Even if you don't want to shell out \$250 for a super-smart Nest Learning Thermostat, buy a basic programmable thermostat, which will only run you around \$40. You'll be able to set your heating and cooling system to shut down when you're out and power up when you're about to get home.

### THE GREEN TEAM

#### Juana Gómez, co-founder of sustainably

minded Lawrence U.S. Green + Gómez Architects

Building

Scott Rodwin, Patti Mason, founder of executive green design. director of build firm the Colorado Rodwin chapter of the

Architecture

president of Sean Smith Construction, a local green builder





CALL IN THE PROS

Energy auditors (call Xcel Energy for recs) have new hightech tools like infrared guns and blower tests that they use when conducting home surveys to see where heated or cooled air is escaping. They'll be able to point out the spots you need to weatherize to keep your energy bill down.

# > CAULK IT UP

Loading up the caulk gun might sound low-tech, but any spot in your home without a perfect seal will increase your utility bill. Circle your home, checking all your windows and doors as well as in-ceiling light fixtures and smoke detectors for gaps—and then plug 'em.



> WATCH YOUR WATER
A tankless hot water heater will set you back more up front, but you'll no longer be keeping 50 gallons of water hot at all times. And don't be afraid to wash your clothes with cold waterthey'll still get plenty clean.

### > DRILL, BABY, DRILL If you're doing a major gut-job on your home,



# Sotheby's INTERNATIONAL REALTY



Cross Creek Ranch. Contemporary farmhouse and equestrian property on 17 acres with incredible mountain views. \$2,995,000 2035 95th Street Jeff and Carliss Erickson 303.589.2741



#### DENVER

Sophisticated Cherry Creek penthouse with stunning views. Control this smart home with the touch of a button, \$2,490,000, 2500 E, Cherry Creek S, Drive #601 Steve & Jared Blank 303.521.5025



# **TABERNASH**

Custom home nestled on 10 acres with stunning mtn views. Backs to the highly valued amenity of Devil's Thumb Ranch. \$1,795,000 1669 Sunset Boulevard Melinda Lee 970.281.2646



Cory-Merrill, new construction, modern ranch, main floor master, 5 beds, 6 baths, 8,450 sf lot, Spring delivery. \$1,350,000 1464 S. Monroe Street Michael Berman 303.549.5942



#### **FRASER**

Luxurious home in Rendezvous perched on the ridge with amazing views of Winter Park Ski Resort and the Continental Divide. \$2,699,000 290 Cozens Ridge Melinda Lee 970.281.2646



# CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

Over \$1M renovation! Fabulous home on nearly 2 acres, exquisite pool and gardens, horse arena, barn. 7 beds, 9 baths, 7,582 sf. Price upon request, 9 Middle Road Janet Kritzer 303.883.2474



# **DENVER**

Chic Cherry Creek North townhome. Circular staircase and elevator to all 4 floors. City and mountain views. 4 beds, 4 baths, 5,351 sf. \$1,729,000 465 Madison Street Janet Kritzer 303.883.2474



# SHAWNEE

Custom built log home, 4 beds ,3 baths, 3,770 square feet on 1.5 acres. South facing sunny location, passive solar. Ski, fish, hike, bike. \$445,000 39 Skyline Court Mary Haling 720.293.5769



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303.893.3200

# CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

Completely 'new' re-designed Georgian in the Reserve at Cherry Hills. 6 beds, 8 baths, and 10,000 square feet with apartment. \$2,675,000 14 Sunrise Drive Rochelle McNaughton 303.929.9001



#### LITTLETON

Luxurious custom home in private setting features 8,300+ finished square feet, 6 beds, 9 baths, walk-out, and main floor master. \$1,850,000 23 Brookhaven Trail Brooke Burgamy 720.209.9677



# **DENVER**

Historic Bonfils Mansion in Capitol Hill. Unparalleled luxury. Private elevator to 3 floors, 3 beds, 6 baths, 6,064 sf. \$1,595,000 707 Washington Street #424 & 425 Janet Kritzer 303.883.2474 Wendy Fryer 720.244.4241



# ONE LINCOLN PARK

Award winning luxury high-rise; infinity edge pool, hot tub, BBQ's, lounge, gym/yoga studio, 24/7 staff, guest suite. \$300,000 to \$3 Million 2001 Lincoln Street Robin Lake 303.875.2246

ILLUSTRATIONS BY PHIL MARDEN