Eco-Solar Home Tour 2026

14th June, Sunday Noon to 5 pm

Urban Green Cohousing Coop

Tour Day: 14th June, Sunday
Address:
Hosts: Homeowners
Parking: On street

Summary

- Multi family cohousing cooperative
- An intentional community
- Large, shared spaces
- Energy efficient construction

What are the main things people will see and learn about at your home?

• Large common space with large, energy efficient windows and deep windowsills showing the amount of wall insulation; a kid's playroom and common kitchen are adjacent
• An Energy Recovery Ventilator is easily viewable just inside the main door
• Our heat pumps are easily viewable on the back side of the building on the ground floor
• The tour will include a viewing of a representative unit in the building

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Urban Green Cohousing Coop

Why is this home on the tour?

Urban Green Cohousing is a multi family, multi-generational building in central Edmonton. The building has an airtight building design with high levels of insulation in the walls and windows. Heat pumps heat and cool the building (there is no natural gas hookup) and energy recovery ventilators provide fresh air to units in an energy efficient way. On our roof we have installed rack-mounted solar arrays. Other environmentally conscious features include wireless light switches and energy efficient appliances such as ventless clothing dryers. Structurally, we selected a building location in a central neighbourhood that is walkable and bikeable. The vision of our residents is to be “an inclusive, intentional community committed to knowing and supporting our neighbours and to contributing to an environmentally and socially sustainable community in Edmonton's urban core”. All unit owners reside in the building, and all group decisions are made using a structured consensus decision making process. The group fosters a sense of community in structural and social ways. Structurally we have a large common kitchen and eating area, shared child's play space, and garden. Socially, each household helps to participate in the management of our building in a volunteer capacity that works with their skills and interests.

What features save on energy costs?

Our building is entirely electric, and is powered by heat pumps which have performed well even in very cold weather

• About 30% of the annual common areas electricity bill is offset by a 52.2 kW solar PV system, with solar panels installed on the building roof

• The design of the building included insulation and window upgrades resulting in an R60 value in the roof, effective R30 walls, R8 unit windows and R16 common area windows.

• The building is very airtight, and building ventilation uses high efficiency variable speed Energy Recover Ventilators (ERVs) to recover as much waste energy from our air ventilation requirements, bathroom & kitchen exhaust, and standard condensing dryer units

What features save on water costs?

Efficient appliances

Other special features

We selected a variety of different coniferous and deciduous tree species and have a large garden, with clover and mulch on the north side and then flowers and vegetables on the south side

Several residents own electric vehicles and charge them in the parkade using a standard 120V plug; we hope to provide additional support for electric vehicles in the future.

Our wireless lighting system reduced the amount of wiring needed to build the building, and allows residents to control their lighting either using wireless switches or a phone-based app