## **Aria Townhomes Green Features**

## Updated May 2014

- Built to ENERGY STAR® standards, which typically performs 15-20% more efficiently than buildings constructed to standards in local building codes.
- Access to community vegetable and herb gardens.
- HERS Scores (Home Energy Rating System) ranging from the low 50's to the low 80's, depending on unit type.
  - (HERS is a home energy rating that involves the construction plans and onsite inspections. A HERS Reference Home scores a HERS index of 100, while a net zero home scores a HERS of 0, thus the lower the number the better.)
- Milgard Style® Line Low-E windows, backed by a Milgard® lifetime warranty, that meet or exceed Energy Star standards.
- · High efficiency water heater.
- Low VOC paints that use water instead of petroleum-based solvents and contain no (or very low levels) of heavy metals and formaldehyde, thus reducing harmful emissions.
- Heating and air conditioning duct independently tested to secure less than 7% leakage.
- Exterior walls constructed with 2" X 6" studs, which allow for more insulation than a typical home.
- R-20 cellulose blown-in insulation.
  - R value is a measure of thermal resistance used in the building and construction industry. The higher the number, the better the building insulation's effectiveness.
  - Unlike batt insulation, blown-in cellulous insulation easily flows around obstructions and penetrates odd shaped cavities and it easily conforms around wires, electrical boxes and pipes.
- 10-inch raised energy heel roof trusses with full R-38 insulation at exterior wall plane.
- Sealant applied to drywall and framing components at window and door openings to eliminate air penetration and minimize drafts.
- DenShield® Tile Backer from Georgia-Pacific to keep moisture out of the wall cavity.
- Tyvek house wrap improves energy efficiency and indoor air quality by protecting against water and air infiltration.
- ENERGY STAR® Appliances.
- · Energy efficient lights.
- Metal window shades to temper the heat from Southern sun exposure.
- Kahrs wood flooring that is Forest Service Council Certified and Fairtrade Certified.
- Bellmont cabinets in kitchen and bathroom carry the Environmental Stewardship Program Seal of Certification administered by the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association (KCMA) as well as the KCMA Environmental Stewardship Certificate.
- Stainless steel kitchen sink is non-toxic and recyclable. Delta kitchen faucet is a water-efficient product meeting CAL-Green Standards.
- Both standard and upgrade countertops are made from recycled material and meet Greenguard Gold Certification for indoor air quality.
- Ceiling fans to recirculate air, reducing the need for air conditioning.
- Solar available as an upgrade.
- Dual flush toilets available as an upgrade.

