

THE JASPER HOUSE

*Tradition Hilton Head:
Hardeeville, South Carolina*

Tradition Hilton Head is a master planned community located in Jasper County, within the incorporated area of the City of Hardeeville, SC. Tradition Hilton Head may have set a new benchmark by featuring a LEED certified home as one of its first residences to be built. LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. It is a set of guidelines created by the US Green Building Council which a builder or developer may voluntarily follow in order to achieve certification for attaining an objective standard of energy saving and sustainable practices in construction.

The landscape architects were selected to design the above-ground landscape according to LEED's rigorous guideline: as well as the subsurface bioretention cells, drainage systems, and rain gardens for on-site, stormwater runoff treatment and conservation.

Native plants and drought tolerant species form the bulk of the planting palette. At the same time this was balanced by a thoughtful selection of plants which provide year round interest, color, and the kind of form and density which would be expected by any normal homeowner. As added amenities for the homeowner a small organic vegetable garden, a "Conservation Conversation Patio" with a bonfire pit, a vine-covered trellis, small water conserving lawn, and a cottage courtyard entry garden were also included in the landscape plan.

The community of Tradition Hilton Head provides recycled and treated wastewater for landscape irrigation. The Jasper House goes one step further by collecting rainwater from its roof in a specially designed underground cistern which ties into a separate irrigation system and will be dedicated especially for watering the vegetable garden.

LEED points achieved through the landscape architects' efforts for this project came from the following categories:

- Integrated Project Planning
- Quality Management for Durability
- Site Selection
- Infrastructure
- Community Resources and Public Transit
- Access to Open Space
- Site Stewardship
- Landscaping
- Shading of Hardscapes
- Surface Water Management
- Non-Toxic Pest Control
- Water Reuse
- High Efficiency Irrigation System

The Jasper House was awarded a LEED Gold rating.

