

THE DOOR STORE

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Canadian House & Home May 2008



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Exposed reclaimed wood beams and rich red walls give the kitchen rustic warmth. The island's soapstone countertop doesn't stain, scratches can be rubbed out with mineral oil and it's resistant to bacteria. The chrome and crystal light fixture adds a modern twist. Island, Treebone Design; red bowls, Williams-Sonoma; butter dish, plates, Pottery Barn.

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ABOVE, LEFT: The owner often hosts parties at this reproduction 18th-century dining table. Leaves attach to the outer edges to keep it a true circle when expanded. Table, Elite; chairs, Sarah Richardson Design; chandelier, The Door Store.

ABOVE, RIGHT: Pantry staples are kept in tall cupboards in the kitchen nook. The second sink is used for arranging flowers from the kitchen garden. Countertop, sink, N & G Soapstone; Countertops, cabinetry, R & R Woodwork.

which are more energy-efficient than wood framing. The house and garage have radiant in-floor geothermal heating, which requires no fossil fuels for heating and cooling. Even the cedar-shake roof was designed to help conserve energy: spray-foam insulation helps keep the house warm in the winter and deep roof overhangs shade the interior so the house requires less cooling in the summer. "There's no question it costs more to build a green house, but the operating costs are lower," says the owner. For example, although the house is three times the size of her old condo, her electricity bill is just one-and-a-half times what she used to pay; her gas bill, two times.

The owner's concern for the environment carries into the garden, where she's planted more than 60 trees and bushes, many of them native species. "When I bought the land, it had mature trees on the perimeter but nothing in the middle. I'm gradually putting in trees and bushes to increase the carbon dioxide uptake and oxygen output," she says. The backyard boasts an organic garden, divided into sections for herbs, vegetables and flowers for cutting. The garden was planted sympathetically using natural

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