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**“Dean of Green” Strikes Gold: Award Winning Maryland Builder Earns First LEED for Homes Gold Certification in the Metropolitan Washington DC Region**

*Residential project is a model for green building standards, sustainable and universal design principles. Stunning Mediterranean inspired remodel achieves high marks for energy efficient green design.*

**Kensington, Md.** (May 12) --- The US Green Building Council awarded a [LEED \(Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design\) for Homes Gold certification](#) to Kensington, Md. – based [Alexander Group](#) for their work on the [Barnes](#) project, a stunning remodel of a 1960s rambler located in Oxon Hills, Md.

An early adopter of sustainable building practices, CEO and President Alex Dean, has been a proponent of energy conservation, solar and alternative energy resources since 1976. Dean holds a Certified Remodeler (CR) certification from the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) and the Association’s Green Certified Professional (GCP) designation. The award winning builder recently earned [The US Green Building Council’s \(USGBC\) LEED AP](#) certification, widely considered in the building trades as the top national designation for professionals designing and building high performance, sustainable buildings.

Dean’s multiple professional certifications, green accreditations, leadership and commitment to building high performance, energy efficient homes for more than 30 years has earned him the unofficial nickname, “The Dean of Green.” “We are pleased to have earned the LEED Homes Gold Certification. It validates the very high level of sustainable, energy efficient, healthy and environmentally responsible “green” design and building practices integrated into the Barnes project. LEED certification is the toughest, most rigorous and scientifically justifiable green building standard in existence-its third party administration process is what truly distinguishes this program from all others,” explains Dean.

“The Alexander Group employs a dedicated and experienced [“Green Team”](#) essential to the implementation of green design and building systems that make a house a LEED certified home,” says Dean.

Notable features in the [Barnes](#) project:

- Low VOC plywood and construction glues and low VOC hardwood floors, Low VOC Green Seal GS-11 certified paints used inside the house

- FSC certified, no VOC, no formaldehyde cabinets
  - Open cell foam insulation
  - Mold resistant drywall throughout house
  - High efficiency HVAC system with UV bacteria killing light, Merv 13 filter and separate ERV (energy recovery ventilator) system
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- Landscape elements: drought tolerant turf and plants
  - 80 percent of waste from construction diverted from landfills to recycling

**About The Alexander Group, Inc.:** An early adopter of sustainable building practices, Alex Dean has been a proponent of energy conservation, solar and alternative energy resources since 1976. Dean and his team are excited about the increasing public awareness and media interest in "green" building. An early adopter of sustainable building practices, Alex Dean has been a proponent of energy conservation, solar and alternative energy resources since 1976. Since incorporating in 1986, the Alexander Group Inc. established and has continuously implemented a design-build business model, an approach that encompasses an integrated design, budgeting and construction process that provides clients with a quality end product.

Alex is an active member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI) and holds the Association's Certified Remodeler (CR) and Green Certified Professional (GCP) designations.

Dean also holds NAHB's Green Certified Professional (GCP) designation and The US Green Building Council's LEED AP certification. He was president of the DC Metropolitan Chapter of NARI in 1992, and served as a member of the Board of Directors of the DC Metropolitan Chapter of NARI from 1990 to 1994. For information: <http://www.alexandergroup.net>, 301-230-3040.

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