

## ***Local Builders Increase Energy Star Awareness***

**Cary, NC, September 20, 2006** - Anderson Homes, Cimarron Homes, Drees Homes and Southern Energy Management have partnered to increase public awareness of the benefits of Energy Star qualified homes. During the months of October, November and December, a comprehensive Energy Star branding campaign will appear throughout the Triangle on area radio stations and in local movie theatres, newspapers, health clubs and restaurants.

Energy Star is a government program that offers businesses and consumers energy-efficient solutions, making it easy to save money while protecting the environment. Energy efficient choices can save home owners about a third on their energy bills with similar savings of greenhouse gas emissions, without sacrificing features, style or comfort.

Energy Star qualified homes are at least 15% more energy efficient (and often over 30% more efficient) than homes built to the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). Builders achieve this increased efficiency by utilizing products like high performance HVAC units, improved insulation, Low-E windows, and tighter construction and ducts. These provide better indoor air quality, lower utility expenses, quality on longevity and increased resale values.

Anderson Homes, Cimarron Homes, Drees Homes and Southern Energy Management (a 3rd party home rater), are all leaders in home innovation. Anderson Homes ([www.AndersonHomesNC.com](http://www.AndersonHomesNC.com)) builds Energy Star Qualified Homes in 18 communities throughout the Triangle at prices ranging from the 110's to the 320's. They were also named the Carolina's only 2006 Energy Star Partner of the Year. Cimarron Homes ([www.CimarronHomes.com](http://www.CimarronHomes.com)) builds Energy Star Qualified Homes in 7 communities throughout Durham and Mebane at prices ranging from the 130's to the 300's. Drees Homes ([www.DreesHomes.com](http://www.DreesHomes.com)) builds Energy Star Qualified Homes in 14 communities throughout the Triangle at prices ranging from the 190's to the 550's. Southern Energy Management ([www.Southern-Energy.com](http://www.Southern-Energy.com)) assists homeowners and builders in creating the safest, most energy efficient and comfortable homes possible.

For more information on the Co-Op Energy Star Initiative, contact Kelli Lennox via email at [kelli@ahihomes.com](mailto:kelli@ahihomes.com).