

# Maine Home

July 2009

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# Perfectly Positioned

A house in the woods maximizes solar capacity while minimizing impact to the site



Architect: Rick Nelson, Knickerbocker Group  
 Builder: Rick Nelson  
 Location: Edgecomb  
 Square Footage: 3,000  
 Construction: September 2008  
 Completion slated: September 2009

Located on a seventeen-acre wooded lot abutting a land preserve, this passive solar home is built for efficiency. Proper positioning has maximized the home's solar capacity while minimizing impact to the site. Selective cutting to preserve the lot's natural feel allows just the right amount of southern exposure to warm and light the space.

From the architect/owner's perspective, neither form nor function could be compromised when designing his family's home. Its ICF foundation, continuous exterior insulation wrap, and ZIP system sheathing provide superior structural performance, while deep eaves and the curved roof design control solar gain and maximize airflow. The stained concrete floors, which in winter months provide moderate temperatures from the high-efficiency wood gasification heating system, deliver cool treading in the summer. A screen porch/greenhouse, office, playroom, carefully considered (ample) entry spaces, and free-flowing congregating areas allow this family all kinds of space to get back to their roots.

Follow along as construction progresses at [www.knickerbockergroup.blogspot.com](http://www.knickerbockergroup.blogspot.com). **MH+D**

For more information, see Resources on page 96.

