

## RIDGERIE

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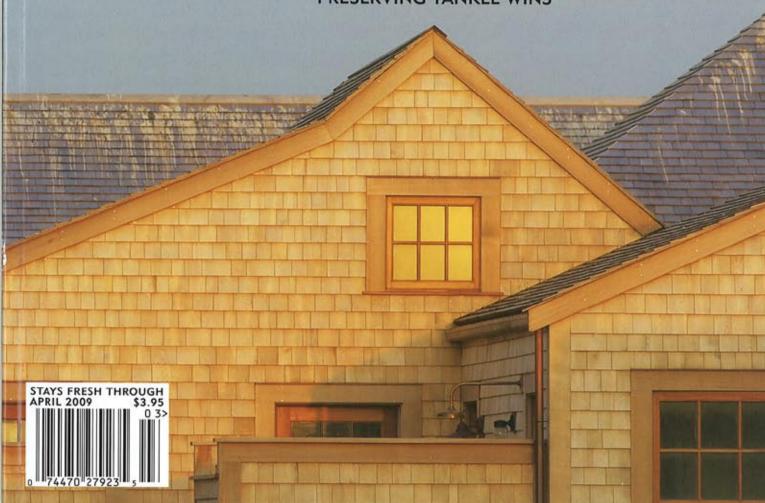
## SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

THE PERFECT HOUSE

MAGICAL FAMILY DINNER

STAR POWER 2009

PRESERVING YANKEE WINS









the floors are mostly mahogany. As with the exterior, all the new wood on the inside came from companies that practice responsible forestry. The result is a simple yet luxurious design. "If you walked in, you would not know you're out on the island," says Shalley. "It's equipped as well as an elegant home on the mainland. You're not sacrificing commodities, but we've built it in a very eco-sensitive way."

One of designer Woodrum's innovations was a numbering system on all the towels and cloth napkins in the house. Visitors are assigned a number that is embroidered on all their linens. They keep track of their towels during their stay and it helps reduce the energy and water used in laundering. All the cleaning materials and soaps are also eco-friendly. Even the mahogany dining table is recyclable in a sense. During its off hours, it converts into a regulation-size ping-pong table, with inlaid wood as the boundary lines for the game.

The goal in creating this green oasis on Esther's

All three bedrooms have an outdoor shower. The master bedroom has a full indoor bathroom. Bedding, towels, and other linens are made from organic materials. Towels are numbered to encourage continued use before washing. Dual flush toilets and faucets have volume controls to reduce water usage.







Island, says Worden, is to walk lightly on the land. A wood chipper was used during construction to reduce green waste, and the resultant mulch was spread around the property to fortify the native, droughttolerant plantings.

One wouldn't be considered too skeptical or cynical for raising an eyebrow at a builder of massive vacation resorts who also seems hell bent on preserving the environment and practicing sustainable living. But Worden doesn't see the two as incompatible. "Consumers want it," he says. "Permitters demand it, and it can save us money."

Three reasons for building green that make sense and can save a bundle.

All appliances in the home meet Energy Star requirements. The sunsets are totally natural.

