

## **GREEN BROOK FAMILY INCORPORATES ENERGY CONSERVATION INTO THEIR HOME RENOVATION**

Scott Danner and his family decided to remodel their 1950's Green Brook Township home about three years ago. The family wanted to add on 1500 square feet. Since Scott works for a Certified Green Dealer, he had both the interest and knowledge to make his remodeled home as energy efficient as possible. Over the last few years, the Danners' have made numerous updates including:

- Covering the attic with recycled denim and spray foam insulation
- Utilizing a high efficiency HVAC system (Lennox)
- Placing radiant floors in hard to heat areas
- Extensive sealing and draft control to close potential leaks
- Replacing existing windows with high performance windows
- Wherever possible, expanding the windows to take advantage of day lighting
- Using sun tunnels (Solatube) in the upstairs bathroom to illuminate the room – the Danners' have yet to turn on the “lights” in this bathroom!
- Changing over all the light bulbs to CFL or LED - illuminating the outside of the home with LED string lights
- Utilizing a highly energy efficient tankless (on-demand) hot water heater system (Buderus Logamax)
- Maximizing sustainable construction wherever possible

This extensive list of energy efficiency improvements is impressive! Even so, there is always room for improvement. Scott participated in Green Brook Township's Thermal/Fire Assessment Program; for a small donation, the Green Brook Fire Department provided an informational assessment of the home's energy loss through the use of a thermal imaging camera. The camera revealed that there was still energy loss through the home's ductwork and basement slab.

The family is thrilled with the remodel since it has added tremendously to the comfort and cosmetic appeal of their home. Although they doubled the size of their home, their utility bills

have remained relatively the same because of all the efficiency enhancements. In addition, the family qualified for Clean Energy rebates for the high efficiency HVAC system.

**Photographs**

