



## The Costa Mesa Green Home

**Steven and Karen Blanchard, David Gangloff Architects and Gonterman Construction  
Costa Mesa | [costamesagreen.com](http://costamesagreen.com)**

**YEAR BUILT: 2009 | ARCHITECT: David Gangloff | CHIEF GREEN OFFICER: Jason Gonterman**

Steven and Karen Blanchard wanted to build a custom home, and they wanted to do it with a clear conscience – environmentally speaking, that is. So they tapped the certified green building specialists at David Gangloff Architects and the contracting experts from Gonterman Construction to help them. The result: Orange County's first Platinum LEED-certified home. Care was taken every step of the way in the planning and execution of the project. The Blanchards donated the pre-existing structure for firefighter training exercises. Only engineered lumber from small trees and sustainably managed forests were used, along with low-volatile organic compounds, energy- and water-efficient appliances and fixtures, and a grey-water recycling system that filters shower water for use in toilets and sprinklers. And because of its rooftop solar panels and high-performance design (sunlight and shade positioning, and the path of prevailing winds were factored into the building's orientation on the property), the Costa Mesa Green Home exceeds the requirements of the state's energy code by 40 percent. It's so efficient that electricity bills should add up to a big, round zero.

"It is important to be environmentally responsible in as many little ways as possible. The Japanese use a word called 'kaizen,' meaning 'continuous improvement with small steps.' Although a homeowner may not have as lofty of a goal as the Blanchards', I believe it is in the small steps we make individually and within our homes that will have the most positive impact on our future."

– Jason Gonterman,  
CEO of **Gonterman  
Construction**



## Yard House Restaurants

**Brea, Costa Mesa, Irvine and Newport Beach | [yardhouse.com](http://yardhouse.com)**

**FOUNDED: 1996 in Irvine**

**PRESIDENT AND CEO, AND CHIEF GREEN OFFICER: Harald Herrmann**

The Yard House was the first restaurant in the nation to install eCorect, a wet-waste system that reduces the weight and volume of food scraps by 93 percent. The one-touch machine decomposes the compostable waste through intensive heat, with no negative environmental impact. The result is a high-density organic substance that can be used for soil amendments, biomass energy and organic fillers. And the company saves about 180,000 gallons of water a year at each restaurant with the waterless urinals it installed in its men's rooms.