

# I Found a Company Selling 'Self-Powered' Manufactured Homes Starting at \$310,000

If you attended last Saturday's tour of green homes, you saw 15 homes which showcased the way toward all-electric net zero energy home construction. All of them, however, were built onsite.

In the past I have written about manufactured housing, and this week I discovered a relatively new company, born in Canada, which combines manufactured housing with net zero energy design. In fact, the homes are designed to be totally self-sufficient and

can be combined with similar homes to form what's called a microgrid, making them totally resilient in terms of energy.



They are also built of steel and designed to withstand wildfires because they lack any attic or crawl space openings which could allow embers to enter the structure.

The company is called **Dvele**, and I urge you to browse the firm's website, [www.Dvele.com](http://www.Dvele.com). They manufacture 20 models ranging from 1 bedroom/1 bathroom for \$310,000 to 4 bed-

rooms/4½ baths for \$1,050,000 — plus shipping on flatbed trailers to your build site.

The "Beaufort" model featuring 3 bedrooms and 2 baths is priced at \$462,000. They promise to manufacture the home in 16 weeks. I have a picture and floor plan of it in my Substack posting of this article.

Dvele homes come with enough solar panels to power the home for four occupants, with batteries to store enough solar-generated electricity to allow it to function indefinitely, assuming normal intermittent sunlight. (All bets are off if an asteroid or nuclear explosion blocks out the sun.)

The home is airtight, with an energy recovery ventilator (ERV), which I've written about in the past) to bring in conditioned fresh air.

If you're a survivalist with some acreage in a wilderness that's accessible by semis pulling flatbed trailer and portable crane, and have a half million dollar budget, Dvele might have the perfect luxury solution for you! I'm not a survivalist, but it has me thinking!

Dvele's mission is to sell "high performance" homes using advanced materials and state-of-the-art

manufacturing to produce energy efficient, climate resilient homes. They have trademarked both Self-Powered and Self-Healing to describe their "health-centric" homes.

As stated on their website, "We must stop accepting homes that make us sick, destroy our environment, and weaken our access to energy. It turns out when you produce a home focused on health and longevity, you get a beautiful space that improves your daily life, creates energy security, and reduces your impact on the planet."

Dvele is my kind of company! I've signed up to attend their monthly online conversation.

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## My Advice to Buyers About Inspecting Homes

First of all, *always* hire a professional inspector recommended by your agent. With my two decades of representing buyers, you can be confident that I would recommend the best inspector, whether you're buying a new or existing home. (It's just as important to inspect a new home!)

Your inspector will (or should) take 3 hours to inspect a home, and only slightly less time to inspect a condo or townhome. Be sure to attend the inspection yourself. You don't need to stalk the inspector, but be available for him (or her) to show you any issues that are uncovered. He/she will also show you things you'll want to know as a homeowner, such as where the water turnoff is located.

Your inspector will create a lengthy printed report that you should receive as a PDF by email. Authorize him to send a copy to your agent. This report should include photographs illustrating all the issues which he uncovered. The urgent issues should be highlighted and compiled in a "client advisory" of its own.

You don't want to put every issue into the "Inspection Objection" which your agent will present to the listing

agent. Remember that it's the inspector's job to identify every single problem whether important or not. That does not mean you should demand the seller to fix every single item.

Your Inspection Objection should, in my opinion, only include "hidden defects." For example, when you made your offer, you were aware of the old carpet and the cracks in the driveway. Those were not "hidden defects." And remember that it's a negotiation. Be prepared for some back and forth as the listing agent submits an Inspection Resolution which does not include everything you asked for.

As a buyer, a professional inspection is the best money you'll spend, because it can uncover costly defects. Your inspector will ask if you want to order a radon test and a sewer scope. Say yes. Those can uncover repairs that the seller can reasonably be expected to pay for, each costing thousands of dollars.

In a bidding war, your agent may suggest waiving inspection objection. Okay, but **do not waive inspection termination!** And still hire a professional inspector.

## 4-BR Denver Bungalow Listed by Kathy Jonke

This classic brick bungalow at **4047 King St.** is in walking/biking distance to Rocky Mountain and Berkeley Parks, Highlands Square and the Tennyson Street Cultural District. Stepping through the front door from the full-width front porch, you are greeted by hardwood floors and a wood burning stove in the open living and dining room. A hallway with built-in cupboards leads to two bedrooms and a full bathroom. In the kitchen, granite countertops blend nicely with the wood-stained cabinets. A staircase leads to the upstairs primary suite, rare in north Denver bungalows. The primary suite includes a bedroom with bamboo floors, two closets, skylights, and a window that looks out to the gardens below. You will also find a cozy sitting area and a 3/4 bathroom. From the main floor hallway, a staircase leads down to a finished basement with a 4th bedroom, a laundry, workshop and a family room. Just off the kitchen is a 396-sq.-ft. sunroom, brightened by 5 large windows. Outside the sunroom are irrigated gardens that were featured in a neighborhood garden tour. A chicken coop under an apple tree is equipped with a self-filling waterer and a solar-powered door for the chickens. Off the alley is a new, oversized, 2-car garage, complemented by off-street parking in a front driveway. Find a video tour and additional photos at [www.DenverBungalow.info](http://www.DenverBungalow.info), then come to Kathy Jonke's open house this **Saturday, 11-2**. Or call her at **303-990-7428**.



## Boulder Home Just Listed by Chuck Brown

This fantastic 3-bedroom, 2-bath, 2,350-sq.-ft. home at **820 Racquet Lane** is at the end of a quiet cul-de-sac in east Boulder's Meadow Glen neighborhood, backing to a community pond and Boulder's outstanding biking trail network. Foothills Parkway, Baseline Road and Hwy 36 are nearby. Inside are hardwood floors throughout, a beautiful staircase with custom wrought iron railing, and lots of sunlight thanks to the open floor plan. There are two bedrooms with walk-in closets on the main level while the primary bedroom is located on the 2nd floor with a huge walk-in closet and ensuite bathroom. The kitchen features custom cherry cabinets, granite counters and a top-notch Viking refrigerator and range. There are two living rooms (main floor and upper floor) and a dedicated home office. Outside is a large and private fenced patio. The 2-car garage also has a spacious attic for extra storage. Take a narrated video tour at [www.BoulderHome.online](http://www.BoulderHome.online), then come to the open house this **Saturday from 11 to 1** or call Chuck at **303-885-7855** to see it.



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"I cannot do all the good the world needs, but the world needs all the good I can do." —Jana Stanfield