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**Architecture, Planning, Interiors**

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**Architect Beck's Home Featured in *Popular Mechanics* Magazine**

Estes Park architect Thomas Beck is known locally and regionally for his expertise in renewable energy and "high performance" homes, and for the optimal example of that expertise – his personal "off the grid" home. That home, which is powered by solar photovoltaic and wind energy, is featured in the October issue of *Popular Mechanics* Magazine.

Just hitting the newsstands, this issue is dubbed "The Self-Reliance Issue." Beck's home is one of several included in an article entitled, "The New Homesteaders," which compares the homes and lifestyles of individuals who've chosen to go the direction of sustainability. The article spotlights the home's self-sufficient energy systems as well as some of the reclaimed, environmentally friendly materials used in its construction, illustrating the application of both the science and the art that influenced the design of this unique Estes Park icon, and demonstrating that a home can be both highly efficient and beautifully livable at the same time. Jennifer Bogo, Senior Science Editor for *Popular Mechanics*, commented to Beck that, "Your perspective was valuable for emphasizing the tech side of going off the grid – and the fact that you don't have to sacrifice comfort to do it."

Thomas Beck, who has practiced architecture in Colorado since 1983, is a long-time advocate of renewable energy and sustainable design – a commitment that was born during his college days and the 1974 Arab oil embargo. Green technology is innovatively incorporated into both his residential and commercial architectural designs. He also offers energy audits and consultation on solar and other renewable energy applications. For more information call 970-586-3913 or visit [www.twbeckarchitects.com](http://www.twbeckarchitects.com).

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