A Green Advantage

The NCLT projects will be constructed with green and sustainable elements for the benefit of both the residents and the surrounding community, including:

• Energy Star modeling and integration including appliances and lighting.
• Healthy flooring materials (non-carpet and non-vinyl flooring).
• Heat Recovery Ventilation (HRV) systems for proper ventilation and moisture control.
• Solar orientation of homes on sites where possible.
• Cement fiber board siding.
• Rain barrels for managing storm water and reducing water used for irrigation.
• Homeowners manual outlining green building and landscaping features and maintenance.
• Low-VOC paints, sealants, and adhesives.
• Water-conserving appliances and fixtures.
Ownership Costs  Homes will sell to qualified buyers for prices starting at $140,000. Through Northern Communities Land Trust, all units will remain permanently affordable to households earning less than 80% of area median income.

Amenities  Sawtooth Cottages of Grand Marais are located within one-half mile of the town center and immediately adjacent to a new business park. Homeowners have convenient access to the multi-use recreational trails for skiing, hiking, and snowmobiling that are within close proximity to the development.

Developer  The mission of the Northern Communities Land Trust is to create affordable homes and strengthen communities through the wise stewardship of land and resources. NCLT utilizes the community land trust method of affordable home ownership to preserve the affordability of homes in perpetuity, creating a stock of permanently affordable homes exclusively for low to moderate income households in the communities in which it works. As of March 2008, NCLT has developed 150 homes and has served a total of 180 households. These homes have either been acquired through a buyer-driven purchase rehab program, or are in-fill homes built by NCLT in Duluth.

Minnesota Green Communities, a collaboration of the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, the Family Housing Fund, and Enterprise, is an initiative designed to foster the creation of affordable, healthier, and more energy-efficient housing throughout Minnesota. The initiative will support the production of affordable housing with markedly reduced energy costs, use of materials beneficial to the environment, conservation-minded land use planning, and attention to the creation of healthy environments and lifestyles for individuals, children, families, and communities. For more information, please visit www.mn_greencommunities.org.