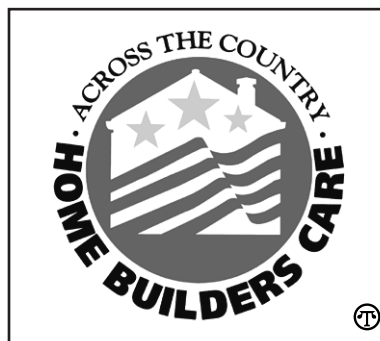


newsworthy trends

Across The Country Home Builders Care About Meeting The Nation's Housing Needs

(NAPSA)—Meeting future housing needs of the nation's burgeoning population is not an easy job. The recent United States Census shows that 1.35 million households were formed in this country each year over the last decade. That's 200,000 households more per year than anyone previously believed—further proof of the intense demand for housing.

The home building industry needs to build roughly 1.6 million homes each year just to keep up with demand. To do this, our nation must grow smarter. We must make land available for new homes in suburban areas where land is plentiful and relatively affordable and identify land in urban and inner suburban locations that can accommodate new residential construction. Home builders recognize that redevelopment of cities is an important part of revitalizing this country. This can be achieved by planning carefully for growth. We must continue to make sure that we build to higher densities, set aside land for open space and provide for our infrastructure needs while ensuring a wide range of housing choices for all Americans. Homeownership is the American Dream, and with the help of local housing officials and regional leaders, builders are keeping the



Many home buyers, environmentalists, land use managers and others see this as the sign of a quality builder.

dream alive in both urban and rural settings.

Home builders across the country are committed to employing smart growth methods to use land more efficiently, and we're working with local governments to create better land-use policies. Working together, we can develop responsible policies that help fulfill the promise of smart growth: Thriving communities, protection of the environment, preservation of open space and quality housing for all families.

To see how the nation's home builders are working to improve housing and caring for their communities, visit www.homebuilderscare.org.