

The Real Goods Solar Living center is the vision of John Schaeffer, the founder of the sustainable products company Real Goods. Located about 90 miles north of San Francisco, the center encompasses three distinct elements: The 5000 square foot Real Goods retail store, the Solar Living Center- a non-profit educational and research division

Forty years ago, CEO John Schaeffer created a business that catered to "Back-to-the-Landers," offering a one-stop store that featured everything needed for off-grid living, including the sale ...

This insider's story continues through the construction process, the design and installation of the renewable energy systems, and into store operations. The Solar Living Center breaks new ground in many ways. Having their story so accessible will make it ...

The Real Goods building and site plan are designed so that an awareness of the elements of place - sun, wind, water and vegetation - becomes second nature. The Retail Showroom building features straw-bale wall construction, sustainably harvested lumber, and grid-intertied wind and photovoltaic energy production.

Real Goods Solar Living Center (Hopland, Calif.), Architectural museums, Showrooms, Tourist camps, hostels, etc, Renewable energy sources, Solar energy, Environmental protection, Green products, Green products

The Solar Living Center is located in a climate zone with extreme summer and winter temperatures. Even though the building has no mechanical heating or cooling system, the interior temperature stays in the 70s F year-round. In the winter months, the low sun penetrates deep into the building to provide warmth and light.

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