

Geothermal heat pumps use the stable temperature of the ground (vertical bore holes typically are 100 to 400 feet deep) as a heat source to warm buildings in winter and as a heat sink to cool them in summer.

# Geothermal energy It's hot! It's cool! It's green!

Animals have always known to burrow into the earth, where the temperature is relatively stable compared to the air temperature, to get shelter from winter's cold and summer's heat. People have also sought relief from bad weather in earth's caves. Today, with geothermal heat pumps (GHPs), we can take advantage of this stable earth temperature - about 45 - 58 degrees fahrenheit just a few feet below the surface - to help keep our indoor temperatures comfortable. GHPs circulate water or other liquids through pipes buried in a continuous loop (either horizontally or vertically) next to a building. Depending on the weather, the system is used for heating or cooling. The Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy have both recognized Geoexchange technology as the most efficient and environmentally friendly home heating and cooling system available.

Melton Construction has been training in the installation of GHPs for the Boulder area. Ty Melton is excited about the flexibility – especially in a remodeling situation. "Geothermal heat pumps are great because they can be used for radiant floor systems, or forced air, or even boilers, and they can be easily retrofit into older homes. You can also replace the home's water heater with a geothermal unit. It can take seven or eight years to recoup the investment cost, but from then on the savings are tremendous. If you're taking out a mortgage to finance the remodel, you can spread the cost out over the life of the mortgage, which makes it a really smart move. And if you have any consideration at all for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, a geothermal heat pump is the perfect alternative.

## Would you like to find out more about us?

Visit www.meltonconstruction.com!

On our website, you can read about our design/build services for residential and commercial projects, as well as our handyman services. You can also:

- Find out all about our company and our Green Building Practices
- Learn about our time-tested remodel process
- See lots of project photos that will inspire you

Visit our website, and you'll find out why Melton Construction is the first choice for so many people in the Boulder area. Then give us a call, and let us take the risk out of your remodeling project.



Ty Melton President

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5075 CHAPARRAL CT. #3 BOULDER, CO 80301 TEL 303.473.9542

WWW.MELTONCONSTRUCTION.COM



#### Melton makes the BIG 50

Prestigious award highlights company's success



It's a great feeling of accomplishment to know that your customers are so pleased with your work that they refer their friends and family. This happens often for Melton Construction. Ty Melton and his skilled team work hard to ensure that every client is satisfied. Their effort has paid off – up to 80 percent of Melton

Construction's business is either repeat or referral – by all measures, quite a success.

It's especially gratifying then, to have a group of peers from across North America recognize that success and reward it. In the spring of this year, Melton Construction was the proud recipient of REMODELING Magazine's Annual Big50 Award.

Every May, REMODELING inducts 50 new companies who have set the standard for professionalism and integrity through smart marketing, exemplary business practices, unique design, and extraordinary impact on their community or the industry at large. Big50 remodelers run successful, growing companies of various sizes that have taken the lead in raising the standards of the industry.

Ty Melton sees the award as not only good for his company, but also good for his clients. "For the Big50 award, they look for companies that are leaders with systems that produce happy customers, on budget and on schedule. We may have won the award, but it's our clients who are the real winners. In fact, it's somewhat ironic that they actually criticized us about our marketing budget being too low. Most of our work is either repeat or referral, so we don't need to spend much on advertising – but even there the client is the winner, because large marketing costs aren't passed on to them."

Melton Construction was also chosen this year in recognition of the three distinct divisions within the business: residential remodeling,



Ty Melton, right, with general manager Rick Johnson.

commercial projects, and service work. "That means that a dentist can have us do her office, as well as her home bathroom, and a couple can call us two years after we do their kitchen to hang a new front door. We build a relationship of trust with our clients; they don't need to look anywhere else – all they have to do is pick up the phone and call."

"We really appreciate winning this award. Our whole team works hard: the design-estimating team, our experienced craftsmen, our expert Service Department, and our great support staff – they all deserve the recognition. We look forward to creating more happy customers in the future."

Contratulations to Ty and all the Melton Construction team!

### Beautiful storage... to go

Doug and Annie Gaddy live in a charming home, but with only three closets (one of which is a coat closet), and no basement or attic, they were in desperate need of storage space. "We wanted a wall unit that could maximize the space that we had, and we wanted it to look beautiful," remembers Annie. "We could have gone to a furniture store, but we wanted a custom fit, and we wanted to be able to take the unit apart and reconfigure it if ever we moved it to a new room or a new house."

The Gaddy's first hired a contractor who ended up walking away from the job some months after. "We lost money with that contractor – and it was broken promise after broken promise. I've lived in other places in the United States, and I find that in the Boulder area it's difficult to find a contractor or remodeler that will stick to the proposal and the timeline; one who really cares about the client. Melton Construction is an exception – Ty always comes through."

The Gaddy's had used Melton Construction before, but were afraid that having a custom design wall unit would be too expensive. "In fact," chuckles Annie, "Ty's price was better than our original contractor's."

Not only were the Gaddy's pleased with the price, they were delighted with the process. "We just showed up at the office. Ty took us into the conference room and worked at the computer while we watched the large screen on the wall. Ty asked us what size we wanted, and what kind of wood. Then he matched the wall colour and the flooring. We played with different kinds of shelves and crown moldings. We looked at different door styles, then with one keystroke, Ty showed us how each would look. He did the same for the wood stain, so we could see how it would work with the walls and the floor. Ty took the time to show us everything that was possible."

An example of Melton's work can also be found in the library of the Koenig Alumni Centre. A few years ago, Ty was asked if he could create a wall unit for the library that would resemble the original bookcase that had been replaced in the 1970s. "It's not exactly the same," Ty admits, "because their needs have changed. They wanted an area



The Gaddy's display/storage unit is in fact 7 pieces, mounted together and fastened to the wall behind. They are very sturdy, yet can be dismantled and reassembled in a variety of configurations.

where they could not only store a collection of books, but also a display area for a sculpture collection. It is, however, the same in size and weight as the old bookcase, which the 1970's unit was not."

Ty remembers how pleased the Gaddy's were with their new storage unit. "We really made them happy, which is something we try hard to do for all our clients. People know us for our major remodeling projects, or for our small service jobs; not that many know that we also do custom woodwork, such as home libraries, law office bookshelves or display cases in reception areas."

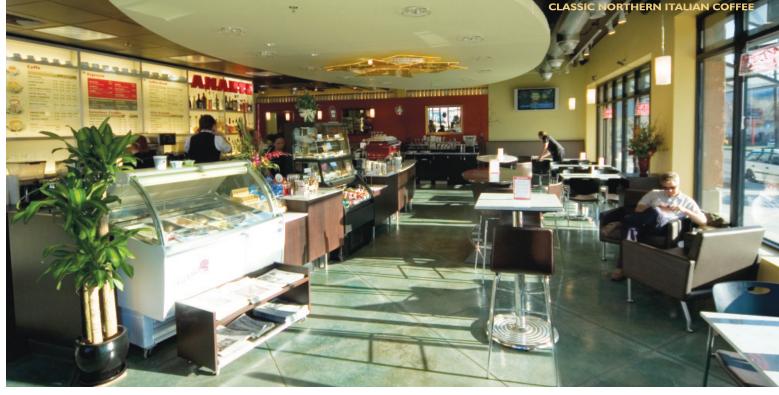
With satisfied customers like Doug and Annie Gaddy spreading the good word about Melton Construction, it won't be a secret for long!

The new bookshelf/display unit in the Koenig Alumni Centre (bottom right) was built to have the same impact on the room as the original bookcase (top left) which had been replaced by a much smaller bookcase (bottom left) in the 1970s.









#### When dreams become reality

It's wonderful when dreams become reality. About two years ago, an ambitious business man came in to talk with Ty. "I want to build an Italian coffee shop", he said. Ty remembers the conversation well. "I said 'Go to Italy and take some pictures'. So the man went and toured Italy, looking for coffee shops that inspired him. He came back with lots of photos, and we sat at the table. We recommended a design company, and together we all worked out a budget for the project."

The very popular Amante coffee shop opened some time later – on time and on budget. A second shop has been built by Melton Construction in Boulder, and Ty has consulted on the construction of a third location in Steamboat.

Melton Construction has designed, built and maintained commercial spaces since 1993. As a general contractor with their own full time staff, Ty and his team have more control over project schedules than other contractors, who rely more on subcontractors. The result is that Melton Construction jobs are completed more quickly, and with a high quality of workmanship that Melton clients have come to expect. The Amante project is a perfect case in point.

Amante is a refreshing experience of both comfort and style. The food is great; the atmosphere is friendly. What started as a dream and some photographs, has now become a reality, and Ty is pleased to have played such a key role.

If you haven't been to Amante, go on in, have a latte, and be inspired. Who knows what dreams await you? And if those dreams involve construction or remodeling, be sure to stop in to Melton Construction on your way back and talk with Ty. He'll turn your dreams into reality.



The artist's conception of the Amante coffee shop (above) and photos of the actual location (top and below) are virtually identical - to the delight of the owners. The stained concrete floor is stylish, durable and easy to clean.

