



Gardening's Popularity Continues in 2021

"Why Build Your Own Greenhouse"



At-home gardening increased in popularity last year during the pandemic's stay-at-home orders. Recent studies have revealed that many of those first-time growers plan to continue gardening in 2021. This is good news for those in the horticultural industry — like garden centers, greenhouse building materials suppliers, and gardening equipment stores.

Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, building your own greenhouse has many benefits beyond the traditional home garden. A greenhouse creates the optimal conditions for starting vegetable and flower seedlings or growing exotic plants that wouldn't normally survive in your geographic area.

More Plant Options

Greenhouses offer a stable, warmer, and more humid growing environment, allowing you to grow a wider variety of plants. Even tropical flowering varieties not typically grown in your hardiness zone.

Inclement Weather Protection

A greenhouse protects your plants from harsh weather such as a late frost, strong winds, damaging hail, or scorching sun rays. And if it's pouring rain outside, you can still tend to your 'garden' and stay dry.

Keep Out Pests

If deer, rabbits, and other rodents spend a lot of time in your backyard, a greenhouse will save your beloved plants from being eaten and destroyed. Growing plants indoors also reduces the use of toxic pesticides to fend off those unwanted critters. Go green with a greenhouse!

Longer Growing Season

Greenhouse temps can be controlled or



kept in balance, creating an ideal growing climate. In a greenhouse, your plants won't be at risk from seasonal temperature changes. Not to mention, you will save money by being able to grow your own fruits, vegetables, and herbs year-round.



There are many types of greenhouses that you can buy or build, from simple, cost-effective structures to high-tech, expensive ones. The style and size of greenhouse you will need depends on the climate where you live and what plants you intend to grow. In addition, choosing the right greenhouse covering is very important. There are many glazing options available and factors to consider including light transmission, durability, thermal efficiency, and cost.

Interested in building your own greenhouse but not sure where to start?

From small hobby-sized greenhouses to large-scale commercial structures, the friendly and knowledgeable team at AmeriLux is here to help you create your ultimate growing space!

Featured Product

LEXAN™ THERMOCLEAR™ 15 Softlite

LEXAN™ THERMOCLEAR™ 15 Softlite is a 100% light diffusing panel utilizing advanced polymer technology to scatter light while maintaining a high level of light transmission.

Natural light is scattered in many directions. The result is a softer light that helps to eliminate unwanted glare, reduce hot spots, and prevent shadows.

The diffusion feature is excellent for greenhouse applications. Light encompasses both top and bottom leaves resulting in uniform growth and more usable energy to the plant.

According to several studies, natural diffused light increases occupant productivity and creates a more comfortable, safe environment for both people and animals.



Need help finding the right glazing panel for your next project?

[Click here to email your questions to a product expert.](#)

**Product
Brochure**

DIY Tip of the Month

Polycarbonate Roofing Panels

Want to take advantage of the longer days and warmer temperatures ahead regardless if its rainy or

Frequently Asked Polycarbonate Question

Q: What is the difference between a rafter, a purlin, and a girt?

A: Understanding the differences between the primary and secondary

sunny? Polycarbonate roofing panels are a lightweight yet durable material choice for a variety of do-it-yourself projects – whether you're looking to let natural light inside or shade outdoor living spaces.



- Pergolas
- Deck Covers
- Patio Awnings
- Sunrooms
- Gazebos



AmeriLux stocks multiwall and corrugated panels in a variety of colors and light transmissions. These high-performance

polycarbonate panels will withstand the elements and hold up for years to come.

For help choosing the right roofing material for your next project, please call 888.602.4441 today to speak to a knowledgeable A-Team member.

structural members that make up the framework of a roof can be confusing.

Rafters are primary structural members designed to support the roof deck and its associated loads. These 'beams' typically run diagonally from the ridge or hip of the roof to the plates of a building's exterior walls.

Purlins are secondary structural members that directly support the roof covering. They are specific to the roof and run perpendicular to the slope of the roof, transferring the roof load to the main roof structure such as trusses, load bearing walls, or large rafters.

Girts are also secondary structural members but are used on walls, attaching horizontally to a sidewall or end wall column. These lateral supports provide additional strength and framework as well as resistance to wind loads.

Rafter, purlin, and girt spacing is determined by the size and loads of a specific structure. Always check with your local building codes office before beginning your project.

[More FAQs](#)

Natural Light and Your Health



May is
MENTAL HEALTH
Awareness Month



Since 1949, this month has been observed as a time to get educated, offer support, and spread awareness about mental health issues. What can you do to improve your own behavioral health and the wellness of others? Enjoy more sunlight!

Bring more daylight into your home or workspace by adding skylights, transom windows, or a window wall system. Polycarbonate daylighting solutions provide an abundance of diffused natural light, delivering visual comfort and improving well-being while reducing energy costs.

BENEFITS OF NATURAL DAYLIGHT:

 <p>Helps prevent depression and other health issues</p>	 <p>Sunlight helps produce the "happy" hormone serotonin</p>
 <p>Leads to higher productivity</p>	 <p>Boost the bodies vitamin D</p>

Links of Interest

- [Nurseries are seeing a high demand for vegetable seeds as interest in home gardening continues to rise in 2021.](#)
- [Polycarbonate benefits in the world of building and construction.](#)
- [Based on nautical principles, the Floating Farm Dairy in Rotterdam is a 'floating' agricultural building that features a translucent polycarbonate structure on top.](#)

News from Shape Products

Shaping the Future of Custom Projects

Shape Products has been a leading manufacturer and supplier of window wells and window well covers for two decades. Although we specialize in these products, we've become subject matter experts in thermoforming and compression molding throughout the years.

Our facility boasts a number of thermoforming and compression molding equipment that can handle projects of almost any size.



Thermoforming Capabilities

Thermoforming is the process of heating a thermoplastic material and shaping it in a mold. Shape Products has six thermoforming machines in house that have a 10 ft. x 6 ft. capacity.

Compression Molding Capabilities

Compression molding is a method of molding where preheated plastic resin is placed in a mold cavity, closed, and pressure is applied to form the material. At the Shape Products production facility, we have six compression molding presses varying in tonnage.

[For thermoforming or compression molding specifications, click here.](#)

All custom projects are quoted in house by our team of experts. If you are in the beginning stages of a project or looking for a quote, contact our team today!

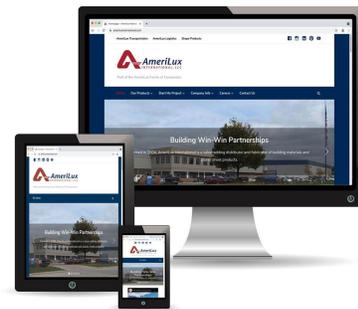
Company Highlights

Check it Out! We've Got a New Website!

Redesigned with a fresh modern look and user-friendly navigation, we are excited to announce the launch of the new AmeriLux website.

The goal of this new site is to provide visitors like yourself with easy access to our products, services, and company information, no matter what the device.

[Please take a look around the new site and learn more about us!](#)



Meet the A-Team

Employee Spotlight | Max Vanderheyden

Looking to change career paths, Max Vanderheyden joined the A-Team this past December. As a Logistics Account Manager, Max is dedicated to solving our customers' transportation needs. This entails understanding their specific shipping requirements and providing cost-effective solutions.

As a primary contact between our customers and carriers, Max enjoys following the process of transporting raw goods to a facility, then shipping the final product to the customer where it is then sold to consumers. "You than see that



"On my first day of work, Kurt Voss came in and

product in your everyday life,” he explained.

The most challenging part of his role is not being able to actually meet all of our customers. That is because Max likes to build relationships through face-to-face interactions. “When you can meet the people you work with every day, you are able to create more of a relationship with them, learn more about their company, and understand more of how they operate.”

welcomed me aboard the team. I knew at once this was a true family-feel company.”

Don't Judge People on Their Worst Moments



This Month's Brand Ambassador is Victor Simones, Compression Production - Shape Products

At AmeriLux, we put emphasis on building healthy interpersonal relationships and a compassionate work environment. This approach has created an atmosphere that is mistake-friendly, collaborative, and innovative — which all impacts the bottom line.

“We value, respect, and honor the dignity of all who come in contact with us. In the pursuit of excellence, we never lose our human compassion. We believe in human potential and invest in helping people grown into the best versions of themselves.”

How We Succeed at AmeriLux

The AmeriLux Family of Companies

[AmeriLux International](#)
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[Shape Products](#)

