

## Extend the Growing Season "Build a DIY Greenhouse"



There are many glazing options available for building a greenhouse. While all let in plenty of sunlight, the covering you will want to use will depend on the climate where you live, the type and style of structure you are planning to build, what plants you intend to grow, and, ultimately, your budget.

For Kirstyn Pailing, living in the eastern part of Wisconsin means a shorter growing season due to long winters and colder temperatures. On average, the season starts in mid-May and ends in late

September. Many vegetable plants need to be started indoors and transplanted to the garden so they will have enough time to mature and ripen by the first frost.

After many months of researching ideas on Pinterest, Kirstyn decided upon the style and type of greenhouse she wanted to build. "I wanted something I could use for storage as well as a tool to extend my growing season. It also gives some of my more delicate plants protection from the harsh winters."

**"I have had a love for plants and flowers for as long as I can remember."**

Part of Kristyn's inspiration for her greenhouse was reusing existing building materials — a common way to save money on a DIY project. She was able to find a lot of recycled materials to use but didn't want to skimp on the roofing. "We knew we were going to need something that was transparent but also built strong enough to hold up to heavy rain, snow, hail, and winds."



Choosing the right covering is very important because the success of your greenhouse depends on it. Plants need light to grow and flourish. The glazing material used will affect the quality and quantity of light plants receive.

For her greenhouse, Kirstyn decided to cover it with LEXAN™ VEROLITE™ 8mm Softlite polycarbonate sheets. "The benefits the polycarbonate gave us checked all the boxes, making our greenhouse something we get to enjoy for many years."



Compared to glass, acrylic, fiberglass, and polyethylene film, multiwall polycarbonate sheets offer the greenhouse grower the ideal combination of impact strength, thermal insulation, flame resistance, condensation control, and long-term light transmission.

According to Kirstyn, installing the multiwall polycarbonate



sheets was a dream. She and her husband found the instructions and install videos quick and easy to follow. “It wasn’t hard at all for us to do. The sheets weren’t too heavy that we couldn’t lift them but aren’t chintzy at all either. The team at AmeriLux was available for any questions we had.”

The advantages of using multiwall polycarbonate sheets are numerous. Easy to handle, fabricate, and install, multiwall polycarbonate will live up to your expectations season after season. These high-performance, long-lasting sheets promise to protect your plants and your bottom line.

**“While this was our first time using this product, we would recommend it and will use it again in the future.”**

Whether you are planning to build a new greenhouse or retrofit an existing one, the friendly and knowledgeable team at AmeriLux is here to help you create a growing environment your plants will thrive in. Protect your plants — grow your investment!

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## Featured Product

LEXAN™ THERMOCLEAR™ 15 Softlite

LEXAN™ THERMOCLEAR™ Softlite is a 100% light diffusing sheet utilizing advanced polymer technology to scatter light while maintaining a high level of light transmission, clarity, and impact resistance.

- High Light Transmission
- Virtually No Yellowing
- 100% Light Diffusion Feature
- Excellent Thermal Properties
- Anti-Condensate Coating
- Top Fire Ratings
- Industry Leading Warranty

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

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



*The scattering of natural light in many directions helps to eliminate unwanted glare, reduce hot spots, and prevent shadows.*

[Visit Product Page](#)

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## DIY Tip of the Month

Polycarbonate Sheet Sealants

Even though polycarbonate sheet profiles fit snug and do a really good job of keeping the multiwall flutes

## Installing Profiles

free of debris, a sealant may be used to ensure a complete seal between the sheet and the profile system.



But not all sealants are created equal, choosing the right one for your project is very important. For polycarbonate sheet applications, it is highly recommended to use a 100% silicone sealant. As the name suggests, a 100% silicone sealant is not 'cut' with any solvents or oils.

#### Silicone Sealant Benefits:

- Doesn't Degrade in Sunlight
- Resists Mold, Mildew & Most Chemicals
- Resistant to Discoloration & Yellowing
- Apply in Virtually Any Temperature
- Maintains Elasticity & Stability

Most manufacturers and distributors will consider the polycarbonate sheet warranty void if the wrong sealant is used. Always read the label and make sure your sealant is compatible with your polycarbonate sheets before using it.



**Q:** How can I get my U- and H-Channel to slide onto the multiwall polycarbonate sheet?

**A.** Try rubbing a bar of hand soap or squirt mild liquid dish detergent on the edge of the sheet. A putty knife may also be used to gently pry open the profile. After the profile has been installed, use a soft, wet cloth to remove any excess soap.

**Note:** Once installed, a bead of 100% silicone may be used along the exterior edges of the channels. This helps to seal the ends and secure the U-channel to the bottom of the polycarbonate sheet.

[More FAQs](#)

## Polycarbonate Options: Multiwall vs. Solid Sheet

<p><b>MULTIWALL POLYCARBONATE</b></p> <p>VS</p> <p><b>SOLID POLYCARBONATE</b></p> <p><b>AMERILUX</b> FAMILY OF COMPANIES</p>	<p>Offering high light transmission, durability, and impact resistance, polycarbonate sheets are produced in a variety of forms. Understanding the differences will help you determine which polycarbonate sheet will work best for your application.</p> <p>Multiwall polycarbonate has at least two walls of hollow 'flutes' that run the length of the sheet, trapping air. Solid polycarbonate sheet is a solid, single layer of plastic with no air spaces.</p> <p>Because multiwall polycarbonate 'traps air' between its layers, it is superior to solid sheet in thermal insulation. The hollow structure also makes the multiwall sheet much lighter in weight than solid polycarbonate sheets.</p> <p>Solid polycarbonate sheets provide clear views like a panel of glass. The flutes of the multiwall sheet distort clarity.</p>	<p><b>Multiwall Polycarbonate Sheet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hollow Structure</li><li>• Translucent</li><li>• Excellent Thermal Insulation</li><li>• Very Light in Weight</li><li>• Virtually Unbreakable</li></ul> <p>VS</p> <p><b>Solid Polycarbonate Sheet</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Solid Structure</li><li>• Transparent</li><li>• Good Thermal Resistance</li><li>• Lightweight</li><li>• Exceptional Impact Strength</li></ul>
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### Links of Interest

- [This Californian Wine Country Barn features corrugated polycarbonate skylights at the roof ridge, providing plenty of natural light while decreasing energy consumption.](#)
- [Solutions for improving natural light in apartment dwellings include using translucent materials like light fabrics or polycarbonate panels that allow light to pass through.](#)
- [Located in the Swiss Alps, the entrance canopy of the renovated Casa Rossa is](#)



[covered with translucent corrugated polycarbonate, ensuring the space below is bright and inviting.](#)

## Company Highlights

### "Win-Win"



"Every sustainable relationship, personal and professional, must be based on win-win for all parties. We invest in creating wins for all stakeholders in AmeriLux: employees, investors, customers, vendors, and the community. We don't create "win-lose" scenarios and we don't accept "lose-win" situations. We cultivate and nurture long-term, strategic partnerships with those who are like-minded, building mutually profitable business that results in the synergistic formula: '1+1=3!'"

**May's Brand Ambassador: Max Vanderheyden**  
Account Manager - AmeriLux Logistics

[How We Succeed at AmeriLux](#)

### Post Frame Builders Show

AmeriLux International will be exhibiting at the first-ever Post Frame Builder Show in Branson, Missouri next month. This show is being hosted by the longest-running, post-frame publication 'Frame Building News', the industry's premier publication.



- **When: June 19th - 20th**
- **Where: Branson Convention Center**
- **Booth# 510**

This show is more than just a tradeshow! It was created to connect professionals who understand and value the specifics of the post-frame industry. All attendees will have access to the show's educational programming – workshops, seminars, and product demonstrations.

Make sure to visit our booth to learn more about our high-quality multiwall polycarbonate panels or PVC products. We'd love to hear more about your next building project.

**[For show details or to register, please visit Frame Building News website.](#)**

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