

February 18, 2011

FGBC Shirts Available

Back by popular demand is our monogrammed FGBC shirt fundraising campaign, but this year offers new styles and colors. To avoid shipping costs, order by May 1 for pickup at GreenTrends in Daytona Beach June 1-3, 2011. Download the [order form](#) from the FGBC website [HomePage](#)

Features

FGBC Certified Homes Top 3000

With 74 homes certified within the first 45 days of 2011, FGBC has reached a milestone of 3,000 homes certified since the program was released in 2001 - firmly placing FGBC as the leading certifier of green projects in Florida. FGBC Certifying Agent **Joe Weaver** in Ruskin is a significant contributor to this year's success with builder partner **K. Hovnanian Homes Windward Homes LLC** earning certification on 25 homes since January 1. Other FGBC Certifying Agents playing significant roles in recruiting builders into the program are **Drew Smith** of Sarasota and **Randy Conn** of Tallahassee.

Last year was the second highest year for home certifications in FGBC's 10-year history, with 694 homes earning the Florida Green Home Designation. Most active builders were **Southern Crafted Homes** (62), **William Ryan Homes** (57), **Premier Construction & Development** (53), **David Weekley Homes** (51), **Neal Communities** (44), **Habitat for Humanity** (41), **Florida Housing Partnership** (39), **Alys Beach** (38), and **Minto Communities** (27).

The 2010 awards for the highest scoring projects and most homes certified by an FGBC Certifying Agent will be announced June 1 at the GreenTrends Conference and Tradeshow in Daytona Beach. [[Learn More](#)]

New Guide for Appraisals Released by Florida DCA

A new "Guide to Preparing an Evaluation and Appraisal Report" (EAR) was posted to the Department of Community Affairs' website in December 2010. The new Guide replaces a March 2004 edition. Included in the guide are the process for preparing the EAR and all of the content requirements. The appendices include various checklists and samples to help local governments through the EAR process. [[Guide](#)]

Don't Miss FARE Renewable Energy Tours in North & Central Florida Next Week

The Florida Alliance for Renewable Energy (FARE) welcomes you to be part of the 2011 Florida Renewable Energy Tour. This tour will travel through 10 cities across the state, reaching an audience of over 2000 individuals and businesses. The tour will feature discussion of renewable energy legislation to be introduced in the 2011 Legislative Session. The tour will also feature industry & policy experts and state & local elected officials. Each individual event will be in Town Hall format with a discussion on job creation and local economic growth through renewable energy development, and a question and answers session from industry experts and State legislators.

Week of Feb 21-25 Schedule:

Feb 23 - Tallahassee

Feb 24 - Jacksonville

Feb 25 - Gainesville

Feb 26 - Orlando

For more information or to register: www.fareenergy.org

Governor Freezes All New Regulations

Certification News

Green Local Governments

City of North Miami

Certified: 1/27/11

Level: Silver

Points: 28%

2011 Highest Scoring Home

Habitat for Humanity

South Sarasota County

Level: Platinum

Points: 230

Florida Governor Rick Scott has issued an Executive Order No. 11-01 that freezes all new regulations and establishes the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform, which will review all rules prior to promulgation as well as agency practices and contracts.

- Immediately suspends rulemaking for all agencies under the direction of the Governor.
- Establishes the Office of Fiscal Accountability and Regulatory Reform to review all rules (including those suspended by the Order) prior to promulgation and to review agency practices and contracts.
- Imposes 90-day suspension on execution of any contracts with a value in excess of \$1 million, without prior approval from the Office.
- Prohibits agencies from promulgating rules unless they obtain prior approval from the Office.

GreenTrends Exhibitor Discount Ends March 1

Exhibitors - Going, going, gone...don't miss the GreenTrends **early-bird discount set to expire March 1**. As the leading certifier of green projects in Florida, FGBC is the go-to organization for information. And with booth rates of \$450 for members and \$599 for non-members, GreenTrends is one of the best bargains for connecting you with Florida's active green building market. [Reserve your booth today!](#)

On the education front, GreenTrends welcomes building science expert **Steve Easley** as our opening ceremony keynote on Thursday, June 2, 2011. Steve will present the 411 on cost-effective green building techniques to boost profitability, performance, and customer satisfaction. He is an internationally recognized construction consultant specializing in solving building science related problems and educating building industry professionals and their trade partners. His work focuses on increasing the quality of construction, sustainability, energy efficiency and reducing costly mistakes that lead to construction defects and callbacks. Steve has hosted hundreds of best practice building science videos that can be seen at www.codecollegenetwork.com.

Another fantastic session planned is "**Redevelopment As A Tool for Green Cities**" presented by the Florida Redevelopment Association. Recycling urban land through redevelopment is helping cities address environmental problems while preparing for a future that will rely more on alternative energy sources. From brownfield decontamination to stormwater management and building design principles, urban redevelopment provides an effective tool for local government in partnership with the private sector to fund costly infrastructure improvements. The first part of this session will examine these issues and provide a case study from the City of Titusville. Retrofitting our cities to be more energy efficient and capable of using energy from alternative sources will be a redevelopment challenge in the near future, as rising fuel costs inspire new investment in alternative technologies. The second part of this session will provide an overview of the economics driving alternative energy research including a discussion concerning the efforts of the Space Coast Energy Consortium promoting public and private investment toward research, technology transfer, manufacturing and distribution of alternative sources of energy.

The full schedule and online registration will be available sometime in March. For the latest updates, check the FGBC website at www.FloridaGreenBuilding.org/GreenTrends

Removing Barriers to Sustainability Webinar Offered March 9

Do you work for a local government that is interested in incorporating green building and sustainable design components into your codes or ordinances, standards and policies, but don't know where to start? Are you an innovative builder that has run into roadblocks for high performance building techniques? Are you a member of a "green team" that is charged with promoting green building practices in your community? Then register for the free webinar on March 9 hosted by the US EPA: Local Government Tools for Sustainable Design and Green Building Implementation: Removing barriers and providing incentives for change. [\[Register\]](#)

Participants will also be introduced to the concept of Administrative Lean, and how it can be deployed to improve efficiencies and support green building incentive programs without increasing costs. For more information on Administrative Learn, please visit: www.epa.gov/lean

US EPA Seeks Applicants for \$1.2 Million in Environmental Justice Grants

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is accepting grant applications for \$1.2 million in funding to support projects designed to research, educate, empower and enable communities to

understand and address local health and environmental issues. Eligible applicants from non-profit, faith-based and tribal organizations working in the community of the proposed project are encouraged to apply.

Environmental Justice Small Grants funding is available for two categories of projects:

- 40 grants of up to \$25,000 each to support projects that address a community's local environmental issues through collaborative partnerships, and;
- Four grants of up to \$50,000 each to gather better science on the environmental and health impacts of exposure to multiple sources of pollution in communities.

Environmental justice means the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people, regardless of race or income, in the environmental decision-making process. Environmental justice issues often involve multiple sources of contamination, like pollution from several industrial facilities within one neighborhood, environmental hazards at the workplace or home, or contamination resulting from the consumption of fish or other subsistence food.

Environmental contamination can lead to costly health risks and can discourage investments and development in low-income, minority, and indigenous communities disproportionately impacted by pollution. Understanding the impacts of multiple environmental risks can help communities develop more effective solutions to their environmental and health concerns. [[More](#)] [[Apply](#)]

ICLEI Announces STAR Community Index Beta Sites

ICLEI announced the selection of nine municipalities to beta test the STAR Community Index. These leading cities and counties will collaborate with ICLEI to design and test the STAR online performance management system – lending their insight and expertise to shape a tool that will benefit local governments nationwide. The nine Beta Communities include:

- Atlanta, GA
- Boulder, CO
- Chattanooga, TN
- Cranberry Township, PA
- Des Moines, IA
- King County, WA
- New York, NY
- Washington, DC

These beta communities will collaborate with ICLEI to design the proposed online software that will allow cities and counties to more effectively manage their sustainability efforts, gather and evaluate data, and report progress toward sustainability goals and measures. Together, ICLEI and the beta communities will road test STAR, to ensure that it can be adopted by local governments around the country, ranging from small towns to major cities. [[More](#)]

Former St. Joe Executive Billy Buzzett to Lead DCA

Florida Governor Rick Scott has named former St. Joe Co. executive Billy Buzzett to lead the state Department of Community Affairs (DCA). Buzzett is a civil engineer and land-use attorney who served as a vice president of strategic planning for St. Joe up until 2009. In making the appointment, Scott said Buzzett was "well-positioned to manage the consolidation of DCA into other state agencies." Buzzett is no stranger to government having served on the 1998 Constitutional Revision Commission and as an administrative law judge and associate general counsel for former Gov. Bob Martinez. Buzzett succeeds another land-use attorney, Tom Pelham, as DCA secretary.

NAHB Names Drew Smith Top Green Professional for 2010

Drew Smith of Two Trails, Inc. in Sarasota has been named the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) 2010 Certified Green Professional. Smith works to promote NAHB and NAHBGreen standards to all Florida HBAs and spearheaded the development of the Tampa, Sarasota, Manatee, Lakeland, Melbourne and Venice HBA green building councils. He was one of the first green consultants to certify a home to the National Green Building Standard. Drew is also one of the leading FGBC Certifying Agents and a past president of the Florida Green Building Coalition.

JWT Predicts Green Trends for 2011

Updated guidelines for green claims will be keeping companies honest

The green movement will continue to impact all levels of consumption – from toilet paper purchases on up to luxury cars. Watch as green gets stricter, with wider adoption of new standards for buildings and updated guidelines for green claims. On a macro level, the emphasis will be placed on protecting the world's forests and making city infrastructure smarter, according to JWT, a global advertising agency.

Americans may see more accurate and detailed green claims next year after the Federal Trade Commission publishes the first update to its "Green Guidelines" in 12 years. Under the proposed guidelines, manufacturers touting a product as "green" or "eco-friendly" will have to link those claims to specific attributes (e.g., a 100 percent recyclable package).

With the fastest urban boom in history and a push for more sustainable living, the coming years will see huge investments in smart infrastructure (embedding digital communication technologies into the framework of power systems). Worldwide, at least 90 smart grid pilots are being implemented as the United States, Japan, China, EU countries and other governments focus investment and development efforts on these technologies. The China Electricity Council reports that installation of smart meters will be worth \$3.1 billion in 2011 - just a taste of what's to come: IDC estimates the value of the smart infrastructure business at \$122 billion over 2010 and 2011 alone.

Look for ambitious environmentalists to push past established standards like LEED by taking on more stringent requirements, such as those advocated by the International Living Building Institute or the Passive House Institute. The ILBI, which awarded its first certifications in 2010, bills its Living Building Challenge as "the world's most rigorous green building performance standard." [[More](#)]

Articles of Interest

[EPA & SBA Launch Water Technology Innovation Cluster](#)

[30MW Solar Park Planned for Walton County](#)

[Orlando Habitat for Humanity Builds Its First Green Community](#)

[Green Builder Magazine 50 Hottest Green Products](#)

[Green Product Online Offers Searchable Database](#)