

July 6, 2012

## Save the Date



Our annual GreenTrends Conference is moving to the Fall, so mark your calendars!

**GreenTrends 2012**  
**Sept 12-14, 2012**  
 PGA National Resort  
 Palm Beach Gardens, FL

[www.GreenTrends.org](http://www.GreenTrends.org)

RESERVE A BOOTH

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## Project Spotlight: Not Just Another Pretty Face Josh Wynne Builds to Perform!

From Marine, to carpenter, to general contractor and recipient of the 2011 Design Excellence Award by *Residential Design + Build* magazine, Josh Wynne is certainly one to respect as he keeps raising the bar in green building and sustainability.

Featured here is his Power Haus project in Sarasota. When certified in 2011, Power Haus received a minus 22 HERS index, the lowest ever recorded by Energy Star and the DOE Builder's Challenge. It is one of the highest scoring FGBC certified homes in history, earning a score of 255 under Version 6. Power Haus was also the highest scoring new home certified by USGBC under the LEED for Homes program. As if that wasn't enough, it also earned Florida Water Star Gold certification.



The 100 percent LED lighting, HVAC, security, power consumption and solar PV production, alarm, and A/V are operable through any of five touch-screens in the home or on the residents' iPhone or iPad. Check out all the cool green features. [[More](#)]

## Florida Leads Nation in International Home Buying

According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR) 2012 "Profile of International Home Buying Activity," residential purchases by international buyers totaled \$82.4 billion for the 12-month period ending March 2012, up 24 percent from \$66.4 billion in 2011. Importantly, the average price paid by international buyers in 2012 (\$400,000) represented an even greater increase of 47 percent, up from \$212,000 in 2011. Florida accounted for 26 percent of the total sales volume - more than double of any other state. (California-11%, Arizona and Texas-7% each).

The report indicates the intended use of properties purchased by international buyers is shifting from vacation homes (23%) to primary residences (39%) with 66 percent of those for single-family homes. About 52 percent of international clients prefer to locate in a suburban area and about a 23 percent

[The HYDRA Turns Scum to Pure Water](#)

[Sun+CO2=Ethanol, No Land, No Water Needed](#)

[LCA Report Shows LEDs Best Option](#)

Quick Links

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CERTIFICATION NEWS

**"Florida Green" Certifications to Date**

**Homes**

832 Homes in 2012  
4,961 total as of 6/12/12

**Commercial Buildings**

Registered: 15  
Certified: 5

**Hi-Rise**

Registered: 4  
Certified: 1

**Land Development:**

Registered: 61  
Certified: 16

**Local Government**

Registered: 56  
Certified: 38

**Multi-Family**

In 2012  
26 Buildings  
302 Units

**Florida Water Star Certifications NFWMD and SRWMD Areas**

2 Homes in 2012

Education Opportunities

July 12, 2012 10 a.m. EDT (Webinar)  
QECB Guidance

locate in a central city/urban area. Less than 17 percent locate in a resort area. Forty-five percent of international purchases were under \$250,000.

## Pulte, D.R. Horton, Lennar Top Housing Giants List

With more than \$3.9 billion in total residential revenue and 15,275 closings in 2011, PulteGroup tops *Professional Builder's* annual Housing Giants ranking of the nation's largest home-building companies. D.R. Horton had \$3.6 billion in residential revenue and 17,176 closings in 2011 to grab the number-two spot on the Housing Giants list.

Rounding out the top five are Lennar Corporation (\$2.6 billion, 10,845 closings), NVR (\$2.6 billion, 8,487 closings), Toll Brothers (\$1.4 billion, 2,611 closings). The 2012 Housing Giants list ranks the 235 largest builders in the U.S.

But the fact is, roughly seven of every 10 homes constructed in the U.S. each year are built by small, local builders. They are the backbone of the industry.

Of the 235 firms that made this year's Housing Giants ranking, more than 55 percent said they built at least one certified-green home in 2011, and nearly a third said they built more than 100 green homes last year. [\[More\]](#)

## Supreme Court Denies Tri-State Water Hearing

The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to take up an appeal filed by Florida in the case involving the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river system. The decision not to hear Florida's request to review an 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruling could harm the Apalachicola River and bay, the Florida Department of Environmental Protection said.

Alabama, Florida and Georgia have been fighting in federal court over water since 1990. Alabama and Georgia want water for industry and growing cities, while Florida wants water along the Apalachicola River for fish and wildlife and to support the seafood industry in Apalachicola Bay.

Lake Lanier, a federal reservoir on the Chattahoochee River in north Georgia, has been the focus of the dispute because it provides 60 percent of the storage capacity among the reservoirs on the river system.

In 2009 a U.S. District Judge ruled that Congress must authorize Lake Lanier to provide water to Georgia cities. Without authorization, he ordered that water use be cut off in three years. But the 11th Circuit overturned the decision and instead directed the Corps of Engineers to analyze its authority related to Lake Lanier.

Florida and Alabama in February asked the Supreme Court to

### Discussion

A Q&A for local governments about Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds  
[\[Register\]](#)  
[\[Download the QECB Guidebook\]](#)

### July 17, 2012 3 p.m. EDT (Webinar)

The U.S. Department of Energy will present a live webinar on communities converting landfill gas to energy.  
[\[More\]](#)

### August 14-15, 2012 FGBC Certifying Agent Designation Course

(To become a Certifying Agent)  
Florida Solar Energy Center  
1679 Clearlake Road  
Cocoa, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

### September 12, 2012 Certifying Agent Annual Active Status Verification Course

PGA National Resort  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
[Register](#)

### Calendar of Events

### July 19-22, 2012 AIA-Florida Conference

The Breakers  
Palm Beach, FL  
[Register](#)

### July 26-28, 2012 Southeast Building Conference

Orange County Convention Center  
Orlando, FL  
[Register](#)

### August 15-17, 2012 Florida Energy Summit

Rosen Shingle Creek  
Orlando, FL  
[Register](#)

### August 17, 2012 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. 2012 UNF / EPB Environmental Symposium

UNF University Center  
Jacksonville, FL  
[Register](#)

review the case. The Supreme Court recently denied the petition without comment.

"The department is concerned that the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals decision could result in unbalanced management of the reservoir system, diverting more water from Lake Lanier for local municipal purposes, and depriving Florida of the water flows needed to support the ecology and economy of the River and Bay," Florida DEP said in a statement. "This could allow further disruption of the biological productivity and unique ecosystem of the river and bay and adversely affect endangered species and the bay's hallmark oyster production."

### R&D Magazine Names Top Technology Awards

*R&D Magazine's* Top 100 Awards are presented annually in recognition of exceptional new products, processes, materials, or software that were developed throughout the world and introduced into the market the previous year. Winners with green building relevance were:

Desiccant-Enhanced Evaporative Air-Conditioning (National Renewable Energy Laboratory): Developed with AIL Research and Synapse Product Development LLC: DEVAP systems cool commercial buildings at a small fraction of the energy use of a traditional cooler, provides superior comfort in any climate, releases far less carbon dioxide, and could cut costly peak electricity demand by 80 percent.

ArrayPower earns an R&D 100 Award for their Sequenced Inverter, the first module-integrated solar inverter designed specifically for the commercial-scale market, converting the DC power produced by solar modules into grid-ready, three-phase AC power. [\[More\]](#)

### New 'Green' Technologies Come to Market Seagrasses Can Store As Much Carbon As Forests

Seagrasses are a vital part of the solution to climate change and, per unit area, seagrass meadows can store up to twice as much carbon as the world's temperate and tropical forests. [\[More\]](#)

### The HYDRA Turns Scum to Pure Water - In A Day!

Imagine a single trailer-mounted device that turns scum into over 20,000 gallons of pure water a day, stores electricity better than a battery, makes medical-grade oxygen, and runs on the sun. A trio of inventors unveiled the first working model of The HYDRA, a fuel cell-based device they say does all that, at a hydrogen-powered show house in Hopewell, N.J. They are taking orders at \$99,500, and targeting the device at medical clinics, schools, remote communities, and disaster relief agencies. [\[More\]](#)

**August 23-25, 2012**  
**FL League of Cities**  
**Annual Conference**  
Westin Diplomat  
Hollywood, FL  
[Register](#)

**Sept. 12-14, 2012**  
**GreenTrends**  
**Conference &**  
**Tradeshow**  
PGA National Resort  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL  
Keynote: Jerry Yudleson  
[Register](#)

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Articles of Interest

**Financial Institutions**  
**Propose Methodology**  
**For Valuing Natural**  
**Resources 'Capital'**  
[\[More\]](#)

**Gen Y'ers: Will They**  
**Impact Land**  
**Development?**  
[\[More\]](#)

**EPA Fines Toll Brothers**  
**\$741 Thousand in**  
**Construction Sites**  
**Stormwater Violations**  
[\[More\]](#) [\[Violations\]](#)

**Is Green A Hard Sell?**  
[\[More\]](#)

**Chemical Industry**  
**Trade Association**  
**Condemns U.S. Green**  
**Building Council**  
**(USGBC)**  
[\[More\]](#)

FGBC Committee  
Meetings

**Affordable Housing**  
3rd Thursday-monthly  
10 a.m.

**Board of Directors**  
2nd Wednesday-monthly  
3 p.m.

**Commercial**  
1st Tuesday-monthly  
3 p.m.

**Education**  
1st Thursday-monthly

## Sun+CO2=Ethanol, No Land, No Water Needed

Joule Biotechnologies unveiled its Helioculture technology - a process that harnesses sunlight to directly convert carbon dioxide (CO2) into SolarFuel liquid energy. This eco-friendly, direct-to-fuel conversion requires no agricultural land or fresh water, and leverages a highly scalable system capable of producing more than 20,000 gallons of renewable ethanol or hydrocarbons per acre annually. [\[More\]](#)

## DOE Report Shows LEDs Best Option

A new U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) life-cycle analysis report finds that LED lamps have a significantly lower environmental impact than incandescent lighting and a slight environmental edge over compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). The report, "LED Manufacturing and Performance," compares these three technologies from the beginning to the end of their life cycles - including manufacturing, operation, and disposal. The most comprehensive study of its kind for LED lamps, the new report analyzes the energy and environmental impacts of manufacturing, assembly, transport, operation, and disposal of these three lighting types, and is the first public report to consider the LED manufacturing process in depth. [\[Report\]](#)



**September 12-14, 2012**  
**PGA National Resort & Spa**  
**Palm Beach Gardens, FL**

Surf's Up! The construction economy is recovering and we feel the excitement everywhere. Join us for the annual GreenTrends Conference & Tradeshow hosted this year at the beautiful PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens, September 12-14, 2012.

**Keynote: Jerry Yudleson - the "Godfather of Green"**



2 p.m.

**GreenTrends**

4th Tuesday-monthly  
2 p.m. (New Time)

**Hi-Rise Residential**

3rd Tuesday-monthly  
11 a.m.

**Homes**

2nd Tuesday-monthly  
2 p.m.

**Land Development,**

Quarterly  
(New schedule)

**Local Government**

1st Tuesday-monthly  
10:30 a.m.

**Membership  
Committee**

3rd Thursday-monthly  
4 p.m. (New Time)

**Programs &  
Promotions**

3rd Thursday-monthly  
4 p.m. (New Time)

For more information:

<http://www.floridagreenbuilding.org/greentrends>

Exhibit space is limited so you're encouraged to reserve a booth soon. For more information, download the [exhibitor information brochure](#).

**Exhibitor Rates**

Member Rate: \$599

Non-Member Rate: \$750

