

June 26, 2014



FI-FOIL'S HYBRID INSULATION SYSTEM
HY-Fi Low Cost R-21 Walls [Learn More](#)

New Home Energy Rating Law Takes Effect

Florida Governor Rick Scott signed into law HB 7147 that reforms the state's law governing energy ratings.

Previously Florida law recognized the Residential Energy Services Network (RESNET), the Commercial Energy Services Network (COMNET), the Building Performance Institute (BPI), and the Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC) as rating systems in the state.

The law created an issue because BPI was claiming state endorsement of their home energy rating program and was using the DOE Home Energy Score as their energy rating software program. In addition the law limited the number of programs that could be recognized in the state.

Rather than picking winners, the new law instead defines what a building energy rating system in the state should include. The law struck reference to BPI, COMNET, FSEC and RESNET and instead defined a building energy rating system as:

For purposes of this part: (3) "Building energy-efficiency rating system" means a whole building energy evaluation system that provides a reliable and scientifically-based analysis of a building's energy consumption or energy features and allows a comparison to similar building types in similar climate zones where applicable. Specifically, the rating system shall use standard calculations, formulas, and scoring methods; be applicable nationally; compare a building to a clearly defined and researched baseline or benchmark; require qualified professionals to conduct the rating or assessment; and provide a labeling and recognition program with specific criteria or levels.

Residential program benchmarks for new construction

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must be consistent with national building standards. Residential building program benchmarks for existing construction must be consistent with national home energy rating standards.

The building energy-efficiency rating system shall require at least one level of oversight performed by an organized and balanced group of professionals with subject matter expertise in energy efficiency, energy rating, and evaluation methods. [[More](#)]

EPA Gives Florida Edict on Emissions

The federal government is proposing that Florida cut its carbon dioxide emissions from power plants by 38 percent by the year 2030. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced specific targets for all states as part of the [Clean Power Plan](#). While some states will be allowed to emit more and others less, overall the reduction will be 30 percent nationwide. Florida, Texas and New York - three of the country's most populous states - are among the states being directed to cut emissions by more than a third.

Florida's 2012 carbon emission rate was more than 1,200 pounds per megawatt hour of energy produced. The EPA is asking the state to develop a plan to lower its emission rate to about 740 pounds.

Power plants account for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. While there are limits in place for the level of arsenic, mercury, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, and particle pollution that power plants can emit, there are currently no national limits on carbon pollution levels.

With the Clean Power Plan, EPA is proposing guidelines that will:

- Cut carbon emission from the power sector by 30 percent nationwide below 2005 levels, which is equal to the emissions from powering more than half the homes in the United States for one year;
- Cut particle pollution, nitrogen oxides, and sulfur dioxide by more than 25 percent as a co-benefit;
- Avoid up to 6,600 premature deaths, up to 150,000 asthma attacks in children, and up to 490,000 missed work or school days-providing up to \$93 billion in climate and public health benefits; and
- Shrink electricity bills roughly 8 percent by

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Quick Links

[Join FGBC](#)

[GreenTrends](#)

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Education Opportunities

July 16, 2014
Florida Water Star AP Training
2014 Florida Water Summit
Embassy Suites
Kissimmee, FL
[\[More\]](#)

August 12, 2014
FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Class
Sarasota, FL
[\[More\]](#)

increasing energy efficiency and reducing demand in the electricity system. [\[More\]](#)

McGraw Hill: Green Homes Show Growth In a Recovering Market

Residential construction is a key engine behind economic growth in the United States. According to McGraw Hill Construction's Dodge Construction Market Forecast, single and multifamily housing projects account for about 45 percent of the value of all construction projects started in the United States in 2014. With that market forecasted to grow rapidly in coming years, the green activity and drivers in the market are critical.

According to the latest by McGraw Hill Construction SmartMarket Report of the single and multifamily builder and remodeler community:

- 62% of firms building new single-family homes report that they are doing more than 15% of their projects green. By 2018, 84% of them expect this level of green activity.
- 54% of firms building new multifamily projects report that they are doing more than 15% of their projects green. There is also growth expected, with 79% reporting the same level of activity anticipated by 2018.
- In the single-family market, the most striking shift is in those firms dedicated to green building (doing more than 90% of their projects green). That percentage is already at 19%, and by 2018 it is expected to double (to 38%).

The study finds that builders and remodelers in both the single-family and multifamily sectors report that the market is recognizing the value of green: **73% of single family builders** (up from 61% since the last report) and **68% of multifamily builders say consumers will pay more for green homes.**

"Greater consumer interest in green homes has contributed to the ongoing growth, leading us to anticipate that by 2016, the green single-family housing market alone will represent approximately 26% to 33% of the market, translating to an \$80 billion to \$101 billion opportunity based on current forecasts. The findings also suggest that lenders and appraisers may be starting to recognize the value of green homes, making it a factor that could help

August 12-13, 2014
FGBC Certified Green Professional Designation
Sarasota, FL
[\[More\]](#)

Funding Opportunities

FHFC Multifamily Energy Retrofit Program (MERP)
[\[More\]](#)

[St. Johns River WMD Water Programs](#)

[South Florida WMD Water Programs](#)

[Southwest Florida WMD Water Programs](#)

FGBC In The News:

[Dahl Builders Finds Niche as Builder of Green Homes](#)

Articles of Interest

[Electric Vehicles - Everything You Should Know](#)

Mobile Sustainability Game Spurs Students to Take Environmental Action [\[More\]](#) [\[Video\]](#)

[Solar Accounted for 74% of All New U.S. Electric Capacity Installed in Q1 2014](#)

[Nielsen: 50% of Global Consumers Willing to Pay More for Goods, Services from Socially Responsible Companies](#)

[The Alliance for Solar Choice Fights for the Future of Rooftop Solar in Florida](#)

Calendar of Events

June 26-28, 2014
AIA Annual Convention
Chicago, IL
[\[More\]](#)

July 24-26, 2014
Southeast Building Conference
Orange County Convention Center
Orlando, FL

encourage the market to grow if there is more widespread awareness across the U.S.," said Harvey Bernstein, vice president, Industry Insights and Alliances for McGraw Hill Construction. [[More](#)]

GreenTrends Conference Connects the Dots ... So You Don't Have To



There are plenty of green building educational opportunities out there for you to muddle through, but much like building science, GreenTrends Conference & Tradeshow connects all the dots to help you reach peak performance.

Tap into information, tools, and methods that will re-energize your enthusiasm for what you do every day, that will teach that old dog new tricks, and that will focus you on what our regenerative economy expects us to provide, as industry professionals.

Here's a sampling of sessions that can help you find new solutions and market drivers:

- The Business Case for Building Zero-Energy Homes
- Designing & Implementing Zero Energy Technologies
- Implementing Sustainable Building in Affordable Housing
- First Things First: Improving Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings
- Unlocking Florida's Energy Policy
- Highlights of the 2014 Legislative Session
- Resilient Communities - Best Practices to Address Climate Change
- Sneak Peak at the New FGBC Green High-Rise Residential Standard - Version 2
- Universal Design - Coming of Age
- Effects of Wall Type and Insulation on Residential Energy Use
- The Power of ROI - Simplifying the Decision Making Process
- Going Social! Digital Marketing Plans for Busy Green Building Professionals
- ... and more.

Lots of great gifts await you in our first Silent Auction. Thanks to Florida Water Star coordinators Deirdre Irwin and Robin Grantham for organizing the event.

[[More](#)]

**August 13-15, 2014
FGBC GreenTrends
Conference**
Ritz Carlton
Sarasota, FL
[[More](#)]

Certification News

Commercial
Registered: 29
Certified: 8

High Rise
Registered: 15
Certified: 3

Homes
Registered: 8083
Certified: 7713

Single-Family: 6479
Multi-Family: 1234

Land Developments
Registered: 62
Certified: 13

Local Government
Registered: 72
Certified: 50

Recent Certifications & Registrations

Garden Park
Location: Fern Park
Type: High-Rise
Certified: 6-3-14
Score: 51
Level: N/A

Gables - Phase II
Location: Coral Gables
Type: High-Rise
Size: 143,114 s.f.

Iconbay
Location: Miami
Type: High Rise
Size: 424,925 s.f.

Paraiso Bay - Phase 1
Location: Miami
Type: High-Rise
Size: 855,419 s.f.

SLS Brickell
Location: Miami
Type: High-Rise
Size: 1,015,915 s.f.

Grassy Key Fire Station #15
Location: Grassy Key
Type: Commercial
Size: 5,050 s.f.

Want to donate a gift? Download the [Silent Auction Donation Form](#). We welcome any contributions ... large or small. Are you creative? Give one of your artistic masterpieces.

In keeping with this year's conference theme "GreenTrends Connects the Dots...So You Don't Have To," Conference Chair Cindy Hall is setting up Twister games at the Wednesday night reception, so dress appropriately in your best "retro" outfit. Best costume wins a prize!

Come early and earn your Certified Green Professional designation by taking the class on Tuesday & Wednesday. Certifying Agents can earn all of their annual renewal requirements by taking the Certifying Agent Annual Renewal class on Tuesday.

GreenTrends offers green product manufacturers and service providers a great chance to showcase their companies in front of Florida's active green building professionals. With over 1,000 FGBC certified homes so far this year, and over 4.2 million square feet of commercial/high-rise projects, there's plenty of potential business for you at GreenTrends. Reserve a booth today.

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

[RESERVE A BOOTH](#)

PACE Funding Advancing in South Florida

Palm Beach County has closed its first PACE funding deal - a \$45,000 commercial loan for a liquor store to upgrade cooling, lights, windows and doors. The savings from lower electricity costs should be enough to repay all or nearly all of the loan.

It's another step forward in South Florida for the Property Assessed Clean Energy - or PACE - program, a program that funds major property improvements with no upfront cost. PACE loans are repaid together with property taxes.

One PACE program already operates in Miami-Dade County. Ygrene Energy Fund Florida, is a provider of commercial and residential property upgrade programs for Floridian governments. The company's first Southeast Florida program, Clean Energy Green Corridor, is a partnership with the cities of Miami, Coral Gables, Cutler Bay, Miami Shores, Palmetto Bay, Pinecrest and South Miami.

Ygrene Florida said its Miami-Dade PACE program has funded \$1.4 million in deals and had \$3.5 million

FGBC Committee Meetings

Board of Directors

2nd Wednesday
Monthly
3 p.m.

Commercial

1st Tuesday
Monthly
3 p.m.

Education

1st Thursday
Monthly
3 p.m.

High-Rise

3rd Tuesday
Monthly
11 a.m.

Homes and Affordable Housing

(Joint Meeting)
2nd Tuesday
Monthly
2 p.m.

Land Development

4th Wednesday
Quarterly
4 p.m.

Local Government

1st Tuesday
Monthly
10:30 a.m.

Membership and Programs & Promotions

(Joint Meeting)
3rd Thursday
Monthly
2 p.m.

Job Opportunities

[APA Florida Job Board](#)

[Green Dream Jobs](#)

more under contract as of mid-May. Most of those deals are residential projects in the \$20,000 to \$25,000 range. One commercial contract tops \$1 million, said Joe Spector, vice president of operations.

Broward County officials just finished negotiations with EcoCity Partners and Ygrene Florida to offer PACE plans in that county.

GBI Launches Sustainable Interiors Certification Program

The Green Building Initiative (GBI) has launched a new certification program specific to design of interiors of commercial and institutional buildings, according to GBI president Jerry Yudelson.

The new program, Green Globes for Sustainable Interiors, focuses exclusively on the sustainable design and construction of interior spaces in non-residential buildings and can be pursued by both building owners and individual lessees of commercial spaces. Tenants can focus on both designing new and/or improving their interior space without the need to certify an entire building.

The program has a dual-pathway approach to materials choices for interior fit-outs, utilizing either lifecycle assessment (LCA) or Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs). Interior designers are rewarded for using multi-purpose furniture, modular furniture and casework solutions, and other interior fit-out elements that can be easily reconfigured. Additional points are awarded for reuse of existing interior fit-outs, including finishes, furnishings, and other non-structural elements. [[More](#)]

Net Zero Success Stories from Florida

The June issue of *Building America Update* newsletter highlights two examples of high performance home building for new and existing homes in the "Sunshine State."

- Tommy Williams Homes - Gainesville: (New Construction)
These two all-electric homes are achieving HERS ratings of ≤ 0 through highly efficient HVAC and envelope design, photovoltaics, and solar water heating systems.
- Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County - Lake Worth (Retrofit)

This single-family home underwent extensive energy upgrades during its conversion to affordable and efficient housing for low-income families, which reduced annual energy bills by \$872.

Lessons Learned from the Tommy Williams Homes projects:

- It is indeed possible to achieve a zero utility bill in a high-performance home with a modest number of solar PV arrays.
- Because of the low cost of PV systems and the low loads in these homes, it was not cost-effective to purchase HVAC equipment with a SEER rating greater than 16.
- Significant south roof areas are needed to get to HERS 0. In TW1 and TW2 it was possible to fit all the solar systems on the south roofs, but just barely (see photos on previous page).
- The interior RH in these low sensible-load homes was well controlled even without a supplemental dehumidification system. The mean monthly interior RH stayed below 60% all the time.
- Occupants in the two TW homes maintained a comfortable 73 to 74°F interior temperatures in the summertime. Still, the cooling energy use in the homes was low, attesting to the excellent performance of the envelope and equipment.

Lessons Learned from the Habitat for Humanity of Palm Beach County project:

- Air handlers and other ventilation equipment may be installed in confined spaces, making them difficult to replace or requiring that holes be created to accommodate the new equipment. Verify that any holes created during installation are properly sealed once the installation is complete.
- Most homes do not have central outside air ventilation systems, and the design or dimensions of existing air handler closets may eliminate the possibility of adding one. When the mechanical system is being replaced, consider modifying the closet to accommodate an outside air ventilation strategy.
- Certain efficiency measures may require unacceptable changes to the home's appearance. In this case, efforts to incorporate outside air were ultimately abandoned when it was determined that doing so would have an unacceptable impact on the aesthetics of the

- home.
- Insufficient quality assurance from the retrofit contractor can leave avoidable gaps and leakages in the duct system. In this instance workers failed to seal the plenum seams with mastic.

Read the complete case studies:

[Tommy Williams Homes](#) [Habitat for Humanity](#)

Mattamy to Develop Thomas Ranch Near Sarasota

Canada's largest homebuilder has purchased the 9,600-acre Thomas Ranch property near Venice in Sarasota County. Mattamy Homes paid \$86.25 million for the land.

"We sit back and kind of laugh at it," said Mattamy COO Brian Johnston from his office in Toronto. "We could never buy land that size anywhere near Toronto. We'd be up in the woods, adjacent to moose and deer. We've never bought anything close to this size."

He said the company will probably develop 75 percent of the tract over the course of 20 to 25 years, subdividing it into phases. "We'll build whatever the market demands," Johnston said. "But we're thinking housing tracts of 700 to 2,000 with different themes - a golf course community, a lake community, maybe a first time-buyer community. But I would think that most of it would be directed at the retiree market."

[\[More\]](#)

PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT: Panasonic

Panasonic is pleased to announce the launch of WhisperGreen Select™, the all-purpose, customizable IAQ solution for virtually any application. Whisper Green Select™ is a groundbreaking IAQ solution that is revolutionizing the vent fan industry with a unique set of features that enable customization and easier installation. As with all WhisperGreen™ line of fans, WhisperGreen Select™ provides unequalled installed performance and quietest operation at .25" w.g. static pressure.



To the builder and professional installer, Panasonic continues to be the innovation leader with high performance ventilation solutions that are built to last. WhisperGreen Select's™ unique design and superior energy efficiency are achieved through engineering expertise, provided by a company who sets the standard for quality and value.



Multi-Speed
with Time Delay
(FV-VS15VK1)



Motion Sensor
(FV-MSVK1)



Condensation
Sensor
(FV-CSVK1)



NiteGlo™
LED Night Light
(FV-NLVK1)

Key Features:

- Customizable all-in-one fan and fan/LED light combinations
- Pick-A-Flow speed selector - one fan, you choose the CFM
- Unique Plug 'N Play modules provide up to three value added features
- Revolutionary DC motor with SmartFlow™ technology ensures optimal CFM output
- Two replaceable 7W ESTAR rated, GU24 base LED lamps provide warm, energy efficient illumination
- Can be used to comply with ASHRAE 62.2, LEED, Cal-Green and ENERGY STAR for Homes 3.0

Florida Top Draw for Retirees

Retirement moves, which dropped sharply during the worst of the recession, are making a comeback. Florida, the top draw for movers 55 and older, is gaining about 55,000 older movers each year, more than twice the growth it saw after the housing bubble burst in the middle of the last decade, according to a Stateline analysis of Census Bureau numbers. Florida's annual growth for this age group is 138 percent.

The top five most popular cities for seniors have all seen increases since the recession ended in 2009, according to a study by William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution. They are the metropolitan areas around Phoenix; Riverside, California; Tampa-St. Petersburg, Florida; Atlanta; and Denver. [[More](#)]

Florida Research Project to Test Ocean Current Energy Potential

The U.S. government announced plans to work with Florida Atlantic University to test a system to get energy from ocean currents, the first of its kind. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management issued a lease to the university to test a turbine system driven by ocean currents.

The demonstration project envisions hydrokinetic turbines deployed about 10 nautical miles off the coast of Fort Lauderdale, Fla. BOEM said "multiple" test devices, anchored to the sea floor, could generate as much as 100 kilowatts of power from wave energy.

[\[More\]](#)

Construction Instruction: Mobile App Provides Instant Answers

Construction Instruction (Ci) is a downloadable App for your mobile device that provides instant and reliable information on building products and materials, installation methods, technical data and much more. The app is designed for use by builders, contractors, architects, do-it-yourselfers and others looking for information on building products and their proper use and installation. [\[More\]](#)

Mitsubishi Introduces the 30.5 SEER Mini-Split

Mitsubishi Electric's heating and cooling division has introduced the Hyper-Heating Inverter (H2i) MSZ-FH ductless mini-split, a product the company said is the most energy-efficient heating and cooling system on the market. At 30.5 SEER, it's the highest efficiency rating for heating and air-conditioning systems and can use up to 40% less energy per room than a conventional system, the company added. [\[More\]](#)

Phthalate-Free Vinyl Products: Taking A Closer Look

The replacement of harmful phthalate plasticizers in a growing array of vinyl products is fueling a new rebranding campaign in the vinyl industry. Clean-vinyl and Bio-vinyl are a few of the trade names at the forefront of this campaign to position phthalate-free vinyl as a breakthrough and advanced green product.

Healthy Building Network's (HBN) in-depth evaluation of the new phthalate-free formulations reveals that these claims are more than mere overstatements. They're more greenwash from the vinyl industry.

HBN's evaluation concludes that the removal of phthalates from vinyl products is a good thing. However, even when viewed in their most positive light, the various reformulations of vinyl have not created a clean vinyl. To the contrary, these modifications underscore the essential problem with vinyl itself - chlorine chemistry. [[More](#)]

Sustainable Florida Best Practice Nominations Open

Each year, Sustainable Florida hosts its "Best Practices" Awards program, designed to showcase outstanding sustainability efforts around the state. More than 150 organizations over the last 20 years have been recognized. Categories include:

- Large Business
- Small Business
- Government
- Non-Profit
- Partnership
- Green Building
- Leadership

There is a small nomination fee of \$100. Non-profits and deserving parties are eligible to apply for a waiver. Deadline to submit the nomination form is Friday, August 1. [[More](#)]

Renewal Energy Forum Set for Oct 6-8 in Miami

Renewal Energy Forum Set for Oct 6-8 in Miami

As the largest and longest established renewables



event in the Caribbean, the Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF) provides a compelling mixture of world-class content and superlative opportunities to meet all the key participants in this rapidly emerging renewables market.

Whether you are a regional policy-maker or an international developer, a regional utility or a multilateral active in the Caribbean, CREF is a must-attend event.

As part of FGBC's partnership with New Energy Events

for CREF 2014, all FGBC members are welcome to a 10 percent registration discount. Enter discount code "CREF-FGBC". For more information please visit www.caribbeanenergyforum.com.

INTERESTING READS:

Green Roof at FIU Mimics Everglades Grasses

The green roof of the new School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) building at Florida International University is planted with indigenous grasses and groundcover in curvaceous patterns reminiscent of the Everglades. [\[More\]](#)

So Just How Well Does Green Sell?

Carson Matthews, an associate broker with Atlanta Fine Homes Sotheby's International Realty, has tracked the sale of newly constructed, third-party certified green homes to traditional new construction in the four counties that make up the core of the greater Atlanta area - Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton and Gwinnett. Matthew's figures show that for 2013 the median sales price of a green home was \$450,500 and that the median sales prices of a conventional home was \$403,014, or about 12 percent less. Matthew also compared the homes by average sales price. That comparison showed that an average price of a green home in 2013 was \$509,761 compared to a non-green home of \$492,909, or just about a 10 percent difference. For both comparisons there were 104 green homes that sold compared to 1,233 conventional homes. [\[More\]](#)

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

Masco Named Energy Star Partner of the Year

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has named Masco Home Services as a 2014 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year for its outstanding contribution to reducing greenhouse gas emissions through its work as a Home Energy Rater.

Since 2001 Masco Home Services has verified over 200,000 ENERGY STAR compliant homes working with many of the largest national and regional home builders across the country helping them build high performance energy efficient homes. [\[More\]](#)

FGBC Welcomes New Members

David Burch

[Masco Home Services, Inc](#)

Daytona Beach

John (Jack) Seitzinger

[Premier Construction and Development, Inc](#)

Tallahassee

Cecelia Weaver

In Touch Real Estate, LLC

Orlando