

August 7, 2015



Save the Date November 11-13, 2015 DoubleTree-SeaWorld Orlando

New Master Building Permit Program Streamlines Tract Building Permitting

The 2015 Legislature passed HB 1151 that created the Master Building Permit Program, which later was incorporated into the 2015 Florida Statutes as Chapter 553.794. Under the Master Building Permit Program, if a local building code administrator receives a written request from a builder to establish a master building permit program, the applicable local government must create the program within six months.

The Master Building Permit program is intended for use by builders who expect to construct identical single-family or two-family dwellings or townhomes on a repetitive basis. In order to obtain a master building permit, builders must submit certain documents and a general construction plan to the local building department for review and approval. (A complete list of required documents is contained in the [Florida Statutes](#).)

To build to the master building permit, the builder must apply for a site-specific building permit and include the master building permit number with the application. The master building permit number may be submitted an unlimited number of times with the site-specific building permit applications so long as the builder uses the model design contained in the master building permit and the permit is valid. Approved master building permits are valid until the Florida

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Building Code is updated.

A builder or design professional who willfully violates the program requirements will be fined \$10,000 for each dwelling or townhome built under the master building permit that does not conform to the master building permit on file with the local building department. [\[More\]](#)

Florida Building Code Update

The *Florida Home Building* magazine has a good article written by John Farinelli, CBO, summarizing the recent changes to the Florida Building Code. [\[More\]](#)

University of Texas Develops More Energy Efficient Window

Researchers at the Cockrell School of Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin are one step closer to delivering smart windows that have a new level of energy efficiency. Their research has created new materials that allow windows to transmit light without transferring heat, or conversely to block light while allowing heat transmission.

The materials are controlled by a small voltage applied by the building occupants. By allowing indoor occupants to more precisely control the energy and sunlight passing through a window, the new materials could significantly reduce costs for heating and cooling buildings.

The cool mode material is a major step toward a commercialized product because it enables control of 90 percent of NIR and 80 percent of the visible light from the sun and takes only minutes to switch between modes. The previously reported material could require hours. [\[More\]](#)

EPA Takes More HFCs Off 'Acceptable' List

As part of the Clean Air Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) periodically issues rules eliminating the use of certain ozone-depleting chemicals in the manufacturing and industrial sectors.

EPA's "Significant New Alternatives Policy ([SNAP](#))" program issued Rule 20, effective August 19, 2015. Under this final rule, various HFCs and HFC-containing blends that were previously listed as acceptable alternatives will be listed as unacceptable in various end-uses in the aerosols, foam blowing, and refrigeration and air conditioning sectors where other alternatives are available or potentially available that

Articles of Interest

[PACE Financing Could Accelerate Financing Sustainability Projects](#)

[Living Big in A Tiny House](#)

[Recycling in Crisis: Is It Time for a Course Correction?](#)

Stay Connected



FGBC Welcomes New Members

Marisela Pomenta
Viride Development, LLC
Coconut Grove

Martina Faillace
Viride Development, LLC
Coconut Grove

Quick Links

[Join FGBC](#)

[GreenTrends](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Education Opportunities

October 13-14, 2015
FGBC Certifying Agent
Destination Class

FSEC
Cocoa, FL
[\[Register\]](#)

[Energy Star Webinars](#)

[Building America Webinars](#)

Calendar of Events

August 13-15, 2015
FL League of Cities
Annual Conference

Orlando, FL
[\[More\]](#)

August 19, 2015
11:30 - 1:00

TBAEP Luncheon Urban
Renewal and Brownfields
Redevelopment in Tampa
Bay
Tampa, FL
[\[Register\]](#)

pose lower overall risk to human health and the environment. [[See List and Applications](#)]

Hempcrete Is Newest Green Building Material

Add hemp fiber to lime and you get a lightweight building material that can be shaped like a cinder block. When fully cured, it floats in water. Buildings up to 10 stories tall have been built from hempcrete in Europe according to Philly.com.

Hempcrete is made using the woody, balsa-like interior of the Cannabis sativa plant (the fiber for textiles comes from the outer portion of the stalk) combined with lime and water. Though it lacks the structural stability its name might suggest, hempcrete does provide natural insulation that is airtight yet breathable and flexible. It is free from toxins, impervious to mold and pests, and virtually fireproof.

Best of all, hempcrete is a sustainable building material because hemp can be grown and replenished relatively quickly. Hemp based building materials could usher in a new era of "green" building products, according to the New York Times. [[More](#)]

Should You Sign A Green Lease?

Green leases, also known as energy-efficient leases, high-performance leases, or aligned leases, work to match the landlord and tenant's financial and energy incentives. The goal is to conserve energy and reduce costs for both parties.

A "green lease" is basically like any other lease-it is a negotiated agreement between the tenant and the landlord. However, a "green lease" also includes provisions that allocate the benefits and risks of the building's energy efficient performance-or investments in improving such performance-and, in some cases, the behavior of the tenants inside the building.

In a "green lease," the landlord and tenant attempt to economically align their mutual interests in areas such as energy efficiency, indoor air quality, or other areas of green or sustainable design or operations. Various model "green lease" forms do exist, but there is no one universally agreed upon set of "green lease" provisions.

Therefore, because a green lease is a negotiated contract like any other, the specific provisions and legal language that "need to be included" depend on whether you are approaching the lease from the perspective of the tenant or the landlord. In either case, the provisions would ideally set forth in sufficient

August 19-23, 2015
FL Realtors Annual Conference
Orlando, FL
[[More](#)]

Aug. 30- Sept. 2, 2015
Florida Housing Conference
Orlando, FL
[[More](#)]

Certification News

Commercial
Registered: 35
Certified: 13

High Rise
Registered: 38
Certified: 10

Homes
Registered: 10,703
Certified: 10,587

Single-Family: 7,678
Multi-Family: 2,909

Land Developments
Registered: 62
Certified: 13

Local Government
Registered: 77
Certified: 56

Recent Certifications

Palm Coast Landing - Bldgs 7 & 8
Location: Palm Coast
Type: High-Rise
Certified: 7/17/15
Score: 101
Level: Bronze

Recent Registrations:

Palm Cove Subdivision
Location: Ponte Vedra Bch
Type: Land Development
Size: 10.33 Acres

FGBC Committee Meetings

Board of Directors
2nd Wednesday
Monthly
3 p.m.

Commercial
1st Tuesday
Monthly
2 p.m.

Education
1st Thursday
Monthly
3 p.m.

detail each party's rights and obligations, as well as potential consequences and contingencies. [[More](#)]

USDA Subsidized Energy Audits Available

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) offers grants and loans for renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements to qualifying rural small businesses and agriculture operations through the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP).

USDA chose the University of Central Florida (UCF) to perform a limited number of heavily subsidized energy audits in Florida to support the loan and grant programs. Businesses must meet location, size, and other eligibility criteria to be considered for an energy audit. [[More](#)]

10-Day Sales Tax Holiday Begins Aug 7

What's exempt from the taxman and what isn't during Florida's sales-tax holiday that begins Friday, August 7 can be confusing. But the law offers this simple guidance: All clothes less than \$100, school supplies less than \$15 and the first \$750 of a personal computer are tax free. This applies to online purchases as long as the items are bought during the allotted 10 days. Thanks to a change in Florida law, college textbooks will be tax-free throughout the year. [[Fact Sheet](#)]

Clean Power Plan Sets National Standard For Carbon Pollution from Power Plants

On August 3, the White House and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the final rule for the Clean Power Plan, the first-ever national standard set to limit carbon pollution from power plants.

Under the authority of Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act, the Clean Power Plan requires states to develop tailored implementation plans to reduce carbon emissions by 32 percent from 2005 levels by 2030. In effect, the Plan will create more demand for solar and other renewable technologies than all statewide Renewable Portfolio Standards currently in place. Assuming that implementation of the Final Rule takes place as scheduled, the states' initial compliance plans will be due in September 2016, but the Plan allows states to request extensions of up to two years for final plan submission, to ensure that the states have enough time to develop sustainable compliance plans. Additionally, the Final Rule extended the compliance averaging period to begin in 2022 instead of 2020, and emissions reductions are phased in on a gradual "glide

High-Rise
3rd Tuesday
Monthly
11 a.m.

Homes
2nd Tuesday
Monthly
2 p.m.

Land Development
4th Wednesday
Bi-monthly
2 p.m.

Local Government
3rd Wednesday
Monthly
10:30 a.m.

Programs & Promotions
3rd Thursday
Monthly
2 p.m.

Funding Opportunities

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

[South Florida WMD Water Programs](#)

[Southwest Florida WMD Water Programs](#)

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

Job Opportunities

[APA Florida Job Board](#)

[Green Dream Jobs](#)

[Florida Facility Managers Assn Job Board](#)

path" to 2030.

The Plan establishes carbon pollution standards for power plants, called carbon dioxide (CO₂) emission performance rates. States develop and implement tailored plans to ensure that the power plants in their state meet these standards- either individually, together, or in combination with other measures like improvements in renewable energy and energy efficiency. The final rule provides more flexibility in how state plans can be designed and implemented, including: streamlined opportunities for states to include proven strategies like trading and demand-side energy efficiency in their plans, and allows states to develop "trading ready" plans to participate in "opt in" to an emission credit trading market with other states taking parallel approaches without the need for interstate agreements

A Clean Energy Incentive Program that will drive additional early deployment of renewable energy and low-income energy efficiency is included in the Clean Energy Plan. Under the program, credits for electricity generated from renewables in 2020 and 2021 will be awarded to projects that begin construction after participating states submit their final implementation plans. The program also prioritizes early investment in energy efficiency projects in low-income communities by the Federal government awarding these projects double the number of credits in 2020 and 2021 [\[More\]](#)

Nature Conservancy to Host Webinar On New Coastal Resiliency 2.0 Toolkit

Next Thursday, August 13, the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact will be hosting an introductory webinar with The Nature Conservancy's Chris Bergh to review online tools that enable communities to see the risks that coastal hazards pose to infrastructure, assets and natural resources.

Coastal Resilience 2.0 provides a platform that allows different audiences to include the impacts of hazards into their decision-making, and to start identifying nature-based solutions or adaptation measures that reduce their socio-economic vulnerability to coastal hazards. The ability to interactively examine storm surge; sea level rise; natural resources; vulnerable communities and assets and develop risk reduction and restoration solutions can lead your community to make better decisions. [\[More\]](#) [\[Register\]](#)

BREEAM Approves SCS Indoor Air Quality Credits

BREEAM, a recognized environmental assessment method and rating system for buildings, has approved certification under the [SCS Indoor Advantage](#) Gold

program as eligible for credits under BREEAM's indoor air quality requirements.

Indoor Advantage Gold certification is sought by manufacturers of office furniture and building materials, including paints and coatings, adhesives and sealants, insulation, wall coverings, furnishings and other interior products. In addition to BREEAM green building requirements, certification assures that products meet the emissions requirements of CA 01350 and the open, industry ANSI/BIFMA M7.1/X7.1 standards.

A list of Indoor Advantage Gold-certified products is available in the Certified Green Products Guide at scsglobalservices.com. [[More](#)]

O&A With Rick Fedrizzi CEO & Founding Chairman USGBC

Reit.com recently interviewed USGBC CEO Rick Fedrizzi about changes in sustainable building, sustainability reporting and transparency.

REIT: You've been CEO of USGBC since its beginning in 1993. Can you give us an idea of how you've seen attitudes toward green building evolve in the last two years?

RICK FEDRIZZI:

In the past two years, we've clearly made the shift from "why" to "how." Green buildings are proven to save energy, water, precious resources and money; reduce waste and carbon emissions; and improve indoor environmental quality. With those benefits as a baseline, at least for new construction, we're at the top of the adoption curve. The challenge now is to get people to go as far as they can versus doing the least amount they can get away with.

What's more interesting to me, however, is the tremendous wave of support that's been generated around human health and wellness as it relates to how people interact with the built environment. There's been a tremendous upsurge in interest in things like active design that promotes more exercise; green walls and roofs that provide visual and sometimes even physical access to green space; circadian rhythm lighting; and maybe most importantly a push for information about what's in the building materials, furniture, finishes and fixtures that we use every day. [[More](#)]

USGBC South Florida Gala Verde Set for Sept 19

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) South Florida Chapter announced that Rick Fedrizzi, CEO and Founding Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council, will

serve as the keynote speaker for the nonprofit organization's GalaVerde 2015, the Chapter's annual LEEDership and Green Awards Program. The event is set for September 19, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Ft. Lauderdale. Awards will be presented for the most outstanding LEED Project in 14 different categories. Self-nominations accepted. [[More](#)]

Green Building Materials Market To Reach \$69 Billion by 2019

Green building is here to stay! As if there were any doubt, a recent study by BCC Research has shown that the market for green building materials has been increasing and will continue to climb at least through 2019, when it is expected to reach \$69 billion in the US alone. Currently, the US market for green building materials sits at about \$43 billion. [[More](#)]

Goodwill Turns to Solar to Help Planet, People

Goodwill Industries of Central Florida, which already has vowed to use only American-made materials in its construction projects, is now going green. During the next 25 years, Goodwill CEO Bill Oakley said, that conversion to solar will save the charity nearly \$5.4 million on its power bills. [[More](#)]