

February 15, 2013

## In This Issue

[Articles of Interest: Tax Reforms Could Advance Energy Efficiency Jobs](#)

[Project Spotlight: e2 Homes, Wilson Residence in Winter Park](#)

[Scott Proposes \\$1.2 Billion for Environmental Priorities](#)

[Florida PACE Secures \\$500 Million in Funding](#)

[Natural Gas Fueling Station Network Proposed](#)

[Crystal River Nuclear Plant Closing](#)

[Housing Markets Show Continued Improvement](#)

[Better Community Award Nominations Due Feb. 15](#)

[Promising Invention - Most Energy-Efficient Light Bulb](#)

[Leon County Provides Tax Relief for Seniors](#)

[Sustainable Florida 'Best Practices' Nominations Open](#)

[Volusia County Green Symposium Set for April 26](#)

[Earn Cash Back with FGBC Rewards Program](#)

## Project Spotlight: e2 Homes Earns First DOE Challenge Home Certification

The "Wilson Residence" in Winter Park, built by Rob Smith of e2 Homes, has earned the first DOE Challenge Home certification in the country. The home produces more energy than it uses with construction costs one-third less than originally proposed. Completed in May 2012, this 4,305-s.f. custom home (with four bedrooms and baths) screams "BIG," until you hear the "small-footprint" in the energy and water-efficiency details.



On the energy front, and even without the solar contributions, the home scores a HERS 57, which is about 33 percent better than Florida Building Code requirements. With its photovoltaic system, the home produces better than zero net-energy performance, with a score of HERS -7. This translates into no electric utility bills and even \$123 annually in the homeowner's pocket from the utility.

When the homeowner hired e2 Homes to build his dream home, he gave them several challenges: 1) build at a cost one-third less than another builder bid, 2) make the home as energy- and water-efficient as possible through design and conservation, and 3) build for comfort and durability in a hot and humid climate, a requirement that is best addressed using the climate-specific criteria in the Florida Green Building Coalition Green Home Standard.

From the start, the builder worked with the homeowner, FGBC Certifying Agent and HERS energy rater Steve Larson with All Home and Energy Services in Christmas,



[FGBC Welcomes New Members & Certifying Agents](#)

Articles of Interest

**Tax Reforms Could Advance Energy Efficiency, Jobs**  
[\[More\]](#)

Quick Links

[Join FGBC](#)

[Linkedin Group](#)

[Facebook Blog](#)

Certification Counts

**"Florida Green" Certifications To Date**

**Homes**

1,345 Homes in 2012  
5,506 total as of 1/31/13

**Commercial Buildings**

Registered: 20  
Certified: 7

**Hi-Rise**

Registered: 4  
Certified: 1

**Land Development**

Registered: 61  
Certified: 12

**Local Government**

Registered: 56  
Certified: 44

**Multi-Family**

In 2012  
26 Buildings  
302 Units

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

3 Homes in 2012

Education Opportunities

**February 26, 2013 ARCSA Webinar Time: 4 - 5 p.m. EST Converting Swimming Pools Into Rainwater**

Fla., and the mechanical contractor to come up with a package of measures that meets the energy-efficiency, comfort, and durability requirements of DOE's Challenge Home, while taking into account the hot-humid climate and the homeowner's cost constraints. The result - multiple awards, including a platinum-level FGBC certification and a gold-level Florida WaterStar certification.

The team analyzed variations of window placements, overhangs, and sizes before construction to determine the most efficient and effective combination for the Central Florida climate and budget. The window package selected is an ENERGY STAR certified, low-E window that blocks 95% of ultraviolet and infrared light with a solar heat gain coefficient of 0.24.

A light-colored standing-seam metal roof was installed over engineered roof trusses that are spray foamed underneath to R-20. This creates a sealed, conditioned attic with summer temperatures down to 85°F instead of a typical 150°F. The heating and cooling system ducts and air handler are located within this unvented attic to meet the Challenge Home requirements of locating HVAC ducts within conditioned space.

The envelope was designed to meet all ENERGY STAR Version 3 requirements and 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) insulation levels. Final blower door tests confirmed a tight envelope at 1.77 ACH 50. The exterior walls were constructed of autoclaved aerated concrete (AAC) blocks. [\[More\]](#)

**Awards:**

FGBC Platinum (214 points) 100 required  
LEED-H Platinum (108 points) 103 required for Platinum  
NAHB Green Emerald (849 points) 701 required for Emerald  
DOE Builders Challenge (1st one)  
EPA Energy Star V3  
Florida's Water Star Gold  
USGBC-CF LEED-H Best home  
USGBC-CF Project of the Year

**Scott's Budget Includes \$1.2 Billion For Environmental Priorities**

Contained within Governor Rick Scott's "Florida Families First" 2013/2014 fiscal budget is a total of \$1.2 billion being touted as funding for environmental priorities. Based on the published allocations, only about \$670 million is for actual "environmental" issues, such as restoration projects in the Everglades (\$60 million), springs water quality improvements (\$257 million), purchase of conservation land (\$75 million), community development (\$102 million), and brownfield

**Harvesting Tanks**

Fee: \$20 ARCSA  
Members/  
\$40 Non-member  
[Register](#)

Sponsored by: [Rain Harvesting Supplies, Inc.](#)

**March 19, 2013 ARCSA Webinar**

**Time: 4 - 5 p.m. EST  
Condensate Collection Systems & Legionella in Rainwater Systems and Different Types of Condensates**

Fee: \$20 ARCSA  
Members/  
\$40 Non-member  
[Register](#)

Sponsored by: [ARCSA](#)

**March 28, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Course**

Tallahassee, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

**April 24-25, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Designation Course**

Florida Solar Energy Center  
Cocoa, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

**June 6, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Course**

Fort Lauderdale, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

**August 21-22, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Designation Course**

Florida Solar Energy Center  
Cocoa, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

**August 23, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Course**

Sarasota, FL  
(In conjunction with GreenTrends)  
[\[Register\]](#)

**November 15, 2013 FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Course**

Gainesville, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

cleanup and solid waste grants (\$176 million).

The remaining \$530 million is earmarked for law enforcement, correctional facilities, "at-risk" youth, the elderly, biomedical research, medical education, health care, cultural and historic grants, local government aerial photography assistance, and disaster preparedness and mitigation.

Within the community development funds are:

- \$50 million for Affordable Housing / State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) provides funds to local governments on a population-based formula as an incentive to produce and preserve affordable housing to very low, low and moderate income families.
- \$30 million in Small Community Development Grants to fund a series of programs focusing on low and moderate income persons, improving housing, and supporting infrastructure improvements that lead to job growth.
- \$18 million in Weatherization Grants to assist low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills and make homes more energy efficient.
- \$1.45 million for Technical Assistance to Local Governments for innovative planning and development strategies to promote a diverse economy and vibrant communities.

[\[FL Families First\]](#)

## Florida PACE Secures \$500 Million in Funding

Florida PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) Funding Agency has announced it has secured up to \$500 million in funding through Samas Capital, LLC (Samas) to provide business and residential property owners with financing for energy-related and wind-hardening improvements in counties that choose to participate. Samas has been active with PACE financings in California and will bring that knowledge and expertise to Florida property owners through the Agency's scalable statewide program.

Florida PACE Funding Agency was established as a special purpose unit of local government to provide voluntary, low-cost financing to property owners for energy efficiency, renewable energy and wind resistance improvements. Improvements are to be repaid over time by property owners through a voluntary special assessment added onto the owner's property tax bill. The Florida PACE Funding Agency has the legal authority to issue \$2 billion in bonds for the purpose of funding property improvements, without liability,

## Calendar of Events

### **Feb 21-24, 2013 e4 Sustainability Summit**

West Palm Beach, FL  
[\[More\]](#)

### **Feb 27-Mar 1, 2013 RESNET Conference**

Marriott World Center  
Orlando, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

### **March 13-14, 2013 GreenPrints**

Georgia Tech Research  
Institute  
Atlanta, GA  
[\[More\]](#)

### **March 19-21, 2013 Power-Up Energy Expo**

Emerald Coast  
Convention Center  
Fort Walton Beach, FL  
[\[Register\]](#)

### **March 20, 2013 (5 - 8:30 p.m.)**

#### **CSI Suncoast Chapter Tradeshow**

The Sahib Shrine Temple  
600 N. Beneva Road  
Sarasota, FL  
[\[Email to Request Info\]](#)

### **April 12, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. EST Water Conservation Expo & Vendor Fair**

South Florida Water  
Management District  
Headquarters  
West Palm Beach, FL  
[More](#)

Attendees: [Contact  
Patrick](#) to RSVP or for  
more information  
Vendors: Contact Peggy  
at 407-957-8448

### **April 16-17, 2013 FHBA Legislative Conference**

Tallahassee, FL  
[More](#)

### **April 25-26, 2013 Florida Green Business Expo**

Indian River State  
College  
Fort Pierce, FL  
[More](#)

to any subscribing county or city.

Florida PACE Funding Agency's program is entirely voluntary and is available only in subscribing counties and municipalities. Subscription is accomplished by resolution of the county or city commission and a short interlocal agreement. The Agency expects to begin funding within the next 60 days. [\[More\]](#)

## Natural Gas Fueling Station Network Proposed

Legislative bills that are intended to encourage the development of natural gas refueling stations were filed on January 31 in both the Florida House and Senate. (SB 560 and HB 579).

Natural gas supporters say building a network of refueling stations would create jobs, reduce air pollution from burning gasoline and diesel, and reduce the money paid for foreign oil exports. Nopetro has proposed a network of refueling stations across Florida and other companies are eyeing expansion into the state. [\[More\]](#)

## Crystal River Nuclear Plant Closing

Duke Energy, the nation's largest electricity company, said that it will permanently close its Crystal River Nuclear Plant, which has been shut since 2009, after botched repairs.

Duke says it is starting a closing process that may take 60 years before the nuclear site is decontaminated and dismantled. And it is considering whether to build a new, natural-gas-fueled power plant to replace the power lost.

Duke says it will return to customers \$835 million from an insurance settlement because they were forced to pay for higher-cost replacement power. But Duke also said it will seek to recoup from customers its \$1.65 billion investment in the plant, 70 miles north of Tampa. [\[More\]](#)

## Housing Markets Show Continued Improvement

According to the National Association of Home Builders and its "Improving Markets Index," the number of improving housing markets continued to expand for a sixth consecutive month to a total of 259 metropolitan areas on the National Association of Home Builders/First American Improving Markets Index (IMI) for February, released today. This is up from 242 markets listed as improving in January, and includes entrants from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Just over 70 percent of the 361 metros covered by the IMI are listed as

Join Our List

Join Our Mailing List!

### 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  
2 p.m.

#### Hi-Rise

3rd Tuesday  
Monthly  
11 a.m.

#### Homes

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)  
1st Wednesday  
Monthly  
3 p.m.

improving. [\[More\]](#)

NAHB/First American Improving Markets Index (IMI)				
MSA	Permits Growth		Price Growth	
	From	Rate	From	Rate
Cape Coral	Mar-2009	6.3%	Feb-2011	17.1%
Deltona	Apr-2009	1.4%	Apr-2011	12.1%
Jacksonville	Apr-2009	3.6%	Jan-2011	3.5%
Lakeland	Jan-2011	4.9%	Jun-2011	10.8%
Miami	Apr-2009	5.7%	Sep-2011	12.8%
Naples	May-2009	5.0%	Nov-2011	6.2%
North Port	May-2009	5.9%	Feb-2011	7.7%
Ocala	Apr-2009	1.7%	Jun-2011	14.9%
Orlando	May-2009	4.5%	Apr-2011	11.9%
Palm Bay	Apr-2009	2.7%	Apr-2011	6.3%
Panama City	Aug-2010	10.2%	Feb-2012	4.8%
Pensacola	May-2009	3.1%	May-2011	2.1%
Punta Gorda	Jan-2009	1.6%	Feb-2011	6.8%
Tallahassee	Dec-2010	1.6%	Feb-2012	6.9%
Tampa	Feb-2009	2.9%	Mar-2011	7.8%

### Better Community Award Nominations Due Feb 15

Each year, 1000 Friends of Florida honors successful efforts to save special places, fight sprawl, and build better communities in Florida. Nominations are open to individuals, organizations, public-private partnerships, local governments, agencies, and/or projects that have enhanced the quality of life in a Florida community.

Categories include Community Steward (for notable individuals), Better Community (for outstanding plans and projects that have been substantially implemented), Bill Sadowski (for regional and statewide leaders), and Al Burt (for excellence in journalism).

The deadline is February 15, 2013. [Click here](#) for the nomination form. Please contact Vivian Young at [vyoung@1000fof.org](mailto:vyoung@1000fof.org) or 850-222-6277 ext. 109 if you have any questions. [\[More\]](#)

### Promising Invention: Most Energy-Efficient Light Bulb

An eye-catching invention that produces as much light as a

100-watt incandescent bulb using just an eighth of the power has become a crowd-funding star for three University of Toronto graduates. The Nanolight, billed as "the world's most energy-efficient light bulb" has raised \$133,022 on the U.S. crowd-funding site Kickstarter and generated pre-orders for more than 3,000 bulbs since the project started seeking backers on Jan. 7. The project had originally hoped to raise \$20,000 to begin manufacturing.

People who have pledged \$30 or more to the project on Kickstarter can expect to be among the first to get one of three versions of the Nanolight shipped directly to them for free anywhere in the world. [[More](#)]

## Leon County Provides Tax Relief for Seniors

In November 2012, Florida voters passed Amendment #11, allowing local government to provide an exemption to seniors over 65 years of age who have lived more than 25 years at the same property valued under \$250,000. This week, Leon County Commissioners approved an additional \$25,000 local option exemption. For those seniors who also have the 'Save Our Homes' \$25,000 exemption, this means the first \$75,000 of home value is exempt from property tax.

## 'Best Practices' Nominations Open

Each year the Sustainable Florida Best Practice Awards identifies best management practices for sustainability in Florida and encourages their widespread replication. Nominations are chosen in seven categories.

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

Previous Sustainable Florida Best Practices have recognized efforts to conserve water; revitalize coastlines; implement cleaner, more efficient processes for air and water; preserve and promote agricultural practices; create green developments that reduce energy and water usage and save residents money; adopt and implement practices to create sustainable communities, companies and campuses; and develop win-win solutions to enable smart growth while preserving green space and native habitat. Take a look around your community and nominate a deserving effort. The deadline for nominations is March 29, 2013. [[More](#)]

## Volusia County Green Symposium Set for April 26

The fifth annual Green Symposium will be held on April 26, 2013 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Lynn Business Center of Stetson University in DeLand. The symposium is a partnership of Volusia County, Stetson University and the City of DeLand.

Featured speakers include Dr. Henry H. Fishkind of Fishkind and Associates, Dr. Kent Portney of Tufts University, and Mr. Michael Hewett of Publix Supermarkets. Dr. Fishkind will provide insight on the current economic landscape in Florida, economic impacts on sustainability, and new initiatives that could be considered to achieve environmental sustainable goals. Dr. Portney, author of *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously: Economic Development, the Environment, and Quality of Life in American Cities*, will share the implications of his research on what it takes to be a city serious about sustainability and how sustainable practices can power economic growth. Mr. Hewett, Manager of Environmental Services at Publix, will speak on the company's sustainability initiatives. [\[More\]](#)

## Earn Cash Back with FGBC Rewards Program

The Florida Green Building Coalition Membership Committee recently announced a "Cash Back" rewards program. For every new member recruited, the sponsoring FGBC member earns 10 percent of the new member's annual membership fee. Rewards are applied to the sponsor's annual renewal. Check the FGBC website for details and to download.

Certifying Agents this is a no-brainer for you. Every time you contract for certification services, be sure to include an FGBC membership in your contract price. Fill out the membership form and submit with payment to FGBC to earn your rewards. [\[More\]](#)

## FGBC Welcomes New Members & Certifying Agents

### **New Members:**

- Sean del Castillo, Habitat for Humanity Lake Sumter, Eustis

### **Re-joining Members:**

- George Kinney, City of St Pete Beach, St Pete Beach