

March 29, 2013

GreenTrends 2013
Save the Date!

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Bridging the Divide



August 20-23, 2013
Ritz-Carlton
Sarasota
Sarasota, FL

www.GreenTrends.org

RESERVE A BOOTH

Green Building Offers Compelling Benefits To Different Types of Stakeholders

A new comprehensive report released from the World Green Building Council (WorldGBC), highlights that there are a large number of compelling benefits from green buildings received by different stakeholders throughout the life cycle of a building.

The report, "The Business Case for Green Building: A Review of the Costs and Benefits for Developers, Investors and Occupants," examines whether or not it's possible to attach a financial value to the cost and benefits of green buildings. Today, green buildings can be delivered at a price comparable to conventional buildings and investments can be recouped through operational cost savings and, with the right design features, create a more productive workplace.

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In markets where green has become more mainstream, there are indications of emerging 'brown discounts', where buildings that are not green may rent or sell for less.

Key findings include:

- **Design and Construction Costs:** Research shows that building green does not necessarily need to cost more, particularly when cost strategies, program management and environmental strategies are integrated into the development process right from the start;
- **Asset Value:** As investors and occupiers become more knowledgeable about and concerned with the environmental and social impacts of the built environment, buildings with better sustainability credentials will have increased marketability. In fact, studies from around the world demonstrate a pattern of greener buildings being able to more easily attract tenants and to command higher rents and sale prices;
- **Operating Costs:** Green buildings have been shown to save money through reduced energy and water use

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Articles of Interest

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Florida's Biggest Future Challenge is Water
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Energy-Efficient Homes Less Likely to Default, Study Says
[\[More\]](#)

Before Filing Your Tax Return Take Advantage of Energy Tax Credits
[\[More\]](#)

Gainesville Compost Turns Food Scraps into Black Gold
[\[More\]](#)

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and lower long-term operations and maintenance costs. The energy savings alone typically exceed any cost premiums associated with their design and construction within a reasonable payback period;

- **Workplace Productivity and Health:** Research shows that the green design attributes of buildings and indoor environments can improve worker productivity and occupant health and well-being, resulting in bottom line benefits for businesses;
- **Risk Mitigation:** Sustainability risk factors can significantly affect the rental income and the future value of real estate assets, in turn affecting their return on investment. Regulatory risks have become increasingly apparent in countries and cities around the world, including mandatory disclosure, building codes and laws banning inefficient buildings.

The report concludes that by greening our built environment at the neighborhood and city scales, the green building industry can deliver on large-scale economic priorities such as climate change mitigation, energy security, resource conservation, job creation, long-term resilience, and quality of life. [[Download the Full Report](#)]

Receive \$500 for Reviewing Energy Efficiency In Small Commercial Building Proposals

The Building Technologies Office (BTO) has announced the availability of up to \$12 million dollars to support new integrated solutions for delivering energy efficiency in small commercial buildings measuring 50,000 sq. ft. or smaller. There are 4.6 million small buildings across the nation, comprising over 90% of the commercial building stock. This represents an immense opportunity to advance energy efficiency.

BTO is looking for qualified individuals to help to choose impactful proposals. The responsibilities of a reviewer include reviewing up to 10 proposals of 40 pages each on the timeline below. Compensation of \$500 per review is available. [Apply](#)

- Proposals Sent to Reviewers: 4/29/2013 by 5:00 PM EDT
- Proposal Reviews Due: 5/8/2013 by 5:00 PM EDT

See more on [DE-FOA-0000829: Better Buildings: Commercial Energy Efficiency Solutions](#)

Congress Considers Increasing Incentives For Energy Efficiency Commercial Retrofits

An existing federal tax deduction-Section 179D of the tax code-provides building owners with a tax incentive to help offset the costs associated with increasing the energy

Funding Opportunities

DOE Offers \$500 per Review For Commercial Building Energy Efficiency Solutions

[More]

Certification Counts

"Florida Green" Certifications To Date

Homes

136 Homes in 2013
5,557 total as of 2/28/13

Commercial Buildings

Registered: 22
Certified: 7

Hi-Rise

Registered: 4
Certified: 1

Land Development

Registered: 61
Certified: 12

Local Government

Registered: 57
Certified: 44

Multi-Family

In 2013
3 Buildings
92 Units

Florida Water Star Certifications NWFWM and SRWMD Areas

3 Homes in 2012

Education Opportunities

April 10, 2013 Webinar Energy Codes for Existing Buildings

National Conversation

1 p.m. EDT

[More]

April 10, 2013 Webinar Economics of Sustainable Development

& the Sustainable

Communities Calculator

12 - 1:30 p.m. EDT

[Register]

1000 Friends of Florida Free monthly webinars

efficiency of commercial buildings.

By allowing businesses to expense capital improvements for energy efficiency as part of their ordinary operating costs, Section 179D rewards capital investments to save energy.

However, the current 179D credit is set to expire in 2013, is insufficient to incentivize retrofits, and cannot be utilized by a wide range of taxpayers. Various stakeholders, including the Real Estate Roundtable and US Green Building Council, have developed legislation to address the weaknesses of the current law. [More]

FGBC Issues RFP for Certification Review Services

The Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) is seeking a qualified contractor to provide technical review services for projects submitted to FGBC for green certification, data analysis of certified projects, and quality control field inspections of projects and Certifying Agents. [Download the RFP]

Green Building Value Statement of the Week

People are always asking what the benefits of green building are, so when I come across 'value statements' that make for a good response, I'll share those with you. This quote from the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) is perfect ammunition for Florida's multi-family housing industry:

"Energy efficiency can make a huge difference in the bottom line for multifamily building owners," said Kate Johnson, ACEEE senior policy analyst. "In addition to lower utility bills, owners have happier tenants because units are more comfortable. That means lower tenant turnover and higher occupancy rates, which also makes a big impact on cash flow for building owners."

Read a [report](#) on factors that contribute to effective energy efficiency program design for multifamily buildings.

Jacksonville to Host Environmental Symposium

The 2013 Environmental Symposium scheduled for August 23, 2013 has issued a "Call for Abstracts" and set a deadline for submission by April 15, 2013. Suggested major topics include, but are not limited to, energy, water, air, innovation, sustainable communities and natural resource management

[\[More\]](#)

**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)

[\[Register\]](#)

**August 23, 2013
Environmental
Symposium**

Univ. of North Florida
Jacksonville, FL

[\[More\]](#)

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

Gainesville, FL

[\[Register\]](#)

Calendar of Events

**April 11-13, 2013
Reclaim + Remake
Symposium**

Crough Center for
Architectural Studies School
of Architecture and Planning,
The Catholic University of
America
Washington, DC

[More](#)

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

West Palm Beach, FL

[More](#)

April 16-17, 2013

Engineers, scientists, consultants, educators, inventors, regulated industry, and policy makers from the North Florida area are all invited to submit abstracts for consideration.

[\[More\]](#)

South Florida's Housing Market Remains Hot

Strong demand and dwindling supply are propelling the median sales price of Miami-Dade properties, with condominium prices rising 26.9 percent in February to \$165,000 compared to a year earlier, and 6.5 percent compared to the previous month, according to figures released Thursday by the Miami Association of Realtors and the local Multiple Listing Service. [\[More\]](#)

Southern Cities More Sustainable Than We Think

It's commonly thought that the least sustainable cities in America are the Southern ones. They are generally newer metros built in the age of the car (in large part because no one wanted to live there before we also invented the air conditioner).

A closer look at the math of indoor climate control suggests that southern cities may in fact be more sustainable than their older, bitterly colder brethren in the north. We're looking at you, Minneapolis. Michael Sivak, a research professor at the University of Michigan, compared Minnesota's largest city (and the coldest major metro in the U.S.) with Miami (our warmest metro on average); looking at the energy it takes for the two just to keep themselves at livable temperatures.

Minneapolis - just talking here about heating and cooling - is three-and-a-half times as energy demanding as Miami, a finding that will likely shock people there who've long prided themselves on life without A/C.

"Think of it this way," Sivak says. "Let's say you would like to have 70 degrees indoors. Think of how cold it can get in Minneapolis or Chicago or Ann Arbor. It can get down to zero." But on a really hot day in Miami, maybe the temperature tops out at 100. It takes a lot more energy to heat a room by 70 degrees than to cool a room by 30. In fact, it takes more energy to heat a room by one degree than to cool it by the same amount. And the typical air conditioner is about four times more energy efficient than the typical furnace or boiler. [\[More\]](#)

FHBA Legislative Conference

Tallahassee, FL

[More](#)

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

Indian River State College
Fort Pierce, FL

[More](#)

**April 26, 2013
Volusia County Green Symposium**

Stetson University
Deland, FL

[More](#)

**May 9-10, 2013
Affordable Housing Preservation Conference**

Allegro Hotel
Chicago, IL

[More](#)

**May 15-17, 2013
National Brownfields Conference**

Georgia World Congress Center
Atlanta, GA

[More](#)

**May 18-23, 2013
BOAF Conference**

Daytona Hilton
Daytona Beach, FL

[More](#)

**May 22-25, 2013
FL City & County Mgmt Assn (FCCMA)**

Hilton Orlando
Orlando, FL

[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

NAHB Research Center Adopts Name Change

The NAHB Research Center changed its name to Home Innovation Research Labs, effective February 12, 2013.

Nothing in the name change alters the company's relationship with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) as its independent subsidiary; its access to industry segments as a result of that relationship; or its research, testing, and third-party certification.

The name change was intended to help provide building industry clients - such as product manufacturers, trade associations, homebuilders, remodelers, developers, and architects - with more brand equity and understanding with consumers.

Other NAHB news:

When the 2012 National Green Building Standard (NGBS) was approved by ANSI in January, project registration and certification deadlines were announced for projects to be submitted under the 2008 NGBS:

- May 1, 2013 = Registration Deadline for 2008 NGBS Certified Projects
- August 1, 2014 = Completion deadline for single-family homes registered for 2008 NGBS certification
- February 1, 2016 = Completion deadline for multifamily buildings registered for 2008 NGBS certification

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

1st Thursday
Monthly
2 p.m.

GreenTrends

4th Tuesday
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.

YEAR-TO-DATE:

New Members:

- Joe Adams, Adams Quality Homes, Tallahassee,
FGBC sponsor: Randy Conn
- John Classe, Crescent Communities, Winter Garden,
FGBC sponsor: John Rinehart
- Sean del Castillo, Habitat for Humanity Lake Sumter
FL, Eustis,
FGBC sponsor: Gary Carmack
- Sandra Malarkey, New Environment Investments LLC.,
Bonita Springs
- James Richardson, City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville
- Michael Rowen, Legacy Construction, Inc., Winter Park
FGBC sponsor: Gary Carmack
- Danny Smith, Ecovolt Electric, Inc., St Petersburg
- Sara Summerville, Ecovolt Electric, Inc., St Petersburg
- Greg Thomas, Green Key Village, LLC / Mainsail Solutions,
Inc., Fruitland Park

Re-joining Members:

- Tom Coady, Haven Construction Co., Clermont
- Jason Helvenston, Orlando
- George Kinney, City of St Pete Beach, St Pete Beach
FGBC sponsor: Bill Lazar
- Kurt Lutgert, The Lutgert Companies, Naples
- Craig McManus, Affordable Solar Hot Water and Power, LLC.,
Dothan, AL
- Danielle Pol, K Hovnanian Windward Homes, Tampa
- Doug Riedel, Holiday Builders, Melbourne
- John Schutt, Southern Cross Building Products,
LLC., Boynton Beach
- James Sloan, James Sloan Construction Consulting, Freeport

Sincerely,

Suzanne Cook, CAE
FGBC Executive Director