

October 6, 2014

## Florida Scientists Urge State Leaders To Join Climate Summit

A group of 42 scientists from Florida universities submitted a joint letter urging Governor Rick Scott and other state leaders to participate in a summit this fall to seek solutions for climate change. The group plans to host a conference of state and national policymakers and scientists Oct. 6 in Tampa, along with engineers and entrepreneurs who have "job-creating solutions."

The letter was signed by scientists from six state universities, the University of Miami and Eckerd College. The scientists cited a recent National Climate Assessment that found Florida "exceptionally vulnerable" to sea level rise, extreme weather and lack of fresh water. In their letter, the scientists cited recent carbon pollution limits set forth by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, calling for Florida to reduce its 2012 carbon-intensity level by 38 percent by the year 2030. [[More](#)]

## HUD Grant Offers \$1 Billion To Disaster Struck Communities

The National Disaster Resilience Competition offered through HUD will make \$1 billion available to communities that have been struck by natural disasters in recent years. All states with counties that experienced a Presidentially Declared Major Disaster in 2011, 2012 or 2013 will be eligible to apply (45 counties in Florida are eligible). The competition will promote risk assessment and planning and will fund the implementation of innovative resilience projects to better prepare communities for future storms and other extreme events.

All successful applicants will need to tie their proposals to the eligible disaster from which they are recovering. For example, a proposed suite of building

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code changes, infrastructure audits, and pilot green infrastructure investments will need to address unmet needs from the eligible past disaster, but also better prepare a community to address all the vulnerabilities and risks that they face going forward. [[More](#)]

## PACE Financing for Energy Efficiency Success Stories Webinar October 7

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing is a vehicle to pay for energy efficiency improvements or renewable energy installations on private property. Local or state governments or other entities fund the upfront costs of the improvements which are paid back over time through property assessments added to the owner's property tax bills. Better Buildings Challenge Partners describe their successful experiences with PACE financing as program developers, city administrators, and property owners. Hosted by U.S. Department of Energy, Better Buildings Challenge. [[Register](#)]

## Fannie Mae Offers Financing Options For Green Building Certification

Last month, Fannie Mae released the first nationally representative sample of energy and water data for multifamily properties across the United States. The [Multifamily Energy and Water Market Research Survey](#) provides an insight into multifamily buildings' annual spending on energy and water as well as other important trends and metrics.

As of the first quarter of 2014, Fannie Mae has financed \$130 million in Green Preservation Plus loans or in loans that are backed by properties with a Green Building certification. These loans are securitized as Green Mortgage Backed Securities (Green MBS), a securitization standard set by Fannie Mae. Green Preservation Plus provides up to an 85% loan to value (LTV) ratio for owners of Affordable housing to transform their property through energy efficiency, water efficiency, and general property improvements. Fannie Mae's newest Green Financing product, the Multifamily Property Improvement to Reduce Energy M-PIRE) loan, underwrites a portion of the property's projected energy and water cost savings, providing additional loan proceeds for cost-saving upgrades to

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[Job Opportunities](#)

Quick Links

[Join FGBC](#)

[GreenTrends](#)

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Education Opportunities

**December 5, 2014  
FGBC Certifying Agent  
Annual Verification  
Course**

Orlando, FL

[\[Register\]](#)

Funding Opportunities

**FHFC Multifamily Energy  
Retrofit Program (MERP)**

[\[More\]](#)

[St. Johns River  
WMDWater Programs](#)

[South Florida WMD  
Water Programs](#)

[Southwest Florida WMD  
Water Programs](#)

Articles of Interest

[How Will the Governor's  
Race Affect Florida's  
Environmental Policy?](#)

[Charting the Spotty Rise  
of Solar in Florida](#)

[The Coming Era of  
Unlimited - and Free -  
Clean Energy](#)

Calendar of Events

**October 6-8, 2014  
CREF 2014  
Caribbean Renewable  
Energy Forum**

Miami, FL

[\[More\]](#)

**October 23-25, 2014  
FHBA Fall Conference**

Daytona, FL

[\[More\]](#)

**October 29-31, 2014  
EDspaces Conference &**

the common area and to tenant units. [\[More\]](#)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Murray Homes



Murray Homes is an industry leader in building luxury waterfront custom homes that exceed the expectations of their clients. Each Murray Home is built with a meticulous focus on detail. Using technology at its most efficient, materials that enhance value, and offering superior architecture and finishing is a hallmark of its work. Its commitment to the highest quality standards for building and customer service, combined with unparalleled savvy for this area's real estate market, is backed by a proven track record. Professionals within the Sarasota real estate and building industry have come to rely on Murray Homes as the "go to" team for getting the most out of a luxury home purchase for clients.



Whether building a dream home for an individual, a historic renovation, luxury office, or site development, the Murray Homes team provides a consistent commitment to the highest quality standards and customer service, treating each project and client with professionalism and respect.



Steve Murray  
VP Murray Homes

## Energy Policies and Rates Hang On Outcome of Governor's Race

**Expo**  
Tampa, FL  
[\[More\]](#)

### Certification News

**Commercial**  
Registered: 31  
Certified: 9

**High Rise**  
Registered: 23  
Certified: 6

**Homes**  
Registered: 8390  
Certified: 8188

Single-Family: 6914  
Multi-Family: 1274

**Land Developments**  
Registered: 62  
Certified: 13

**Local Government**  
Registered: 72  
Certified: 51

### Recent Certifications & Registrations

#### Certifications

**Urban Edge**  
Location: St. Petersburg  
Type: High-Rise  
Certified: 9-22-14  
Score: 50  
Level: N/A

### 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)

The outcome of the governor's race could have a significant impact on state energy policy and utility rates for millions of Floridians. On one side is a former governor, Charlie Crist, who had a reputation for appointing consumer-friendly members to the Public Service Commission - often much to the chagrin of Florida's major utilities and powerful lawmakers. On the other side is Rick Scott, the incumbent, who emphasizes his pro-business policies and has been rewarded with strong financial backing from Florida's utility companies in this year's campaign. [[More](#)]

## Environmental Impact Statement Released For Rail Service from Miami to Orlando

All Aboard Florida - Operations LLC (AAF) is proposing to construct a privately owned and operated intercity passenger railroad system that will connect Orlando and Miami, with intermediate stops in Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach.

The initial Phase I of the Project consists of a new passenger rail service with independent utility along the 66.5 miles of the Florida East Coast (FEC) Railway Corridor connecting West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Miami, and including three stations and associated infrastructure improvements. AAF is currently proposing to extend that service to Orlando with Phase II. The total Project will consist of a 235-mile intercity passenger rail service with an anticipated three-hour travel time between Miami and Orlando.

On September 19, 2014, the [Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) (DEIS) was released, with clear and quantifiable data on the many environmental benefits offered by this type of project.

The DEIS indicated:

- Riders for AAF are expected to be primarily diverted from automobile modes (69 percent of forecast ridership). The Project would have the beneficial impact of removing 335,628 auto vehicle trips per year from the regional roadway network in 2016 and 1.2 million vehicles in 2019.
- The proposed passenger rail service would divert 10 percent of its long-distance riders from private inter-city motorbus services,

2nd Tuesday  
Monthly  
2 p.m.

**Land Development**  
2nd Thursday  
Quarterly  
2 p.m.

**Local Government**  
3rd Wednesday  
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](#)

which totals approximately 152,600 annual bus passenger trips per year.

- The proposed service would divert 10 percent of its riders from the air service market, which totals approximately 152,600 annual aviation passenger trips per year. [[More](#)]

## Southeast Volusia Habitat Wins DOE Housing Innovation Award

The U.S. Department of Energy's Housing Innovation Awards recognize the very best in innovation on the path to zero energy ready homes. The awards recognized 28 industry leaders from the Building Technologies Office DOE Zero Energy Ready Home (formerly DOE Challenge Home) program and Home Performance with ENERGY STAR.



*Ray Allnut  
Construction Manager*

Congratulations to the **Southeast Volusia Habitat for Humanity** in New Smyrna Beach and Construction Manager **Ray Allnut** for winning in the Affordable Builder Award category for its Vista Palm home in Edgewater.

## White House Takes Executive Actions To Advance Solar Energy Deployment

A series of public and private sector commitments and executive actions to advance solar deployment and promote energy efficiency were recently announced on September 18, 2014 by the White House. The actions altogether are expected to cut carbon pollution by nearly 300 million metric tons through 2030 - the equivalent to taking more than 60 million cars off the road for one year - and will save homes and businesses more than \$10 billion on their energy bills. The executive actions are:

- Partnering with up to three military bases to create a veterans solar job training pilot;
- Investing \$68 million in 540 renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in rural areas across the country, including 240 solar projects;
- Proposing an energy conservation standard for

commercial unit air conditioners that has the potential to save more energy than any previously issued standard;

- Supporting funding for clean energy and energy efficiency for affordable housing;
- Strengthening commercial and residential buildings codes; and
- Harmonizing the power of national service and volunteerism to tackle climate change and its effects.

Additionally, 50 companies, states, communities, and multifamily housing leaders from across the country are announcing commitments to deploy onsite solar energy and improve energy efficiency. The commitments represent more than 35 megawatts of solar deployed - enough energy to power thousands of homes - as well as energy efficiency investments that will lower energy bills for more than 400 million square feet of buildings. [[More](#)]

## FGBC Welcomes New Members

### **Kristin Triolo**

[Sarasota Homes International , LLC](#)

Sarasota

### **Trisha George**

[Cornerstone Solutions Group](#)

Dade City

### **Ric Lightner**

Key West

### **Michael O'Donoughue** (Rejoin)

[Jacksonville Building Science](#)

Jacksonville

### **Brittany Fidler**

Eco Construction & Renovations, Inc

Oviedo