

October 7, 2015

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT:
Michael K. Walker & Associates
849 Siesta Key Circle, Sarasota



Certified: April 2, 2015
 Score: 196
 Level: Platinum
 Certifying Agent: Drew Smith, Two Trails, Inc.

At the time of its certification, this impressive three-story home built by **Michael K. Walker & Associates** located at **849 Siesta Key Circle** in **Sarasota** held the best (lowest) HERS score (-11) of all green homes certified this year by the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC). Only two other homes in the past 4 years have scored a lower HERS.

A home with a HERS of "0" or less is referred to as a "Net Zero Energy" home, meaning it produces as much energy as it uses (or more in the case of -11) through renewable resources such as solar panels. The excess energy is typically sold back to the utility, reducing the home's energy costs. (Check out the [RESNET searchable HERS database](#).)

To help reach this level of energy efficiency, the home incorporated a number of green approaches, such as sealing and insulating the floor joist perimeter, installing energy-efficient appliances, using light-colored paint on the interior and exterior walls, sealing the penetrations of recessed ceiling lights, and equipping the home with a comprehensive set of ENERGY STAR qualified light fixtures.

In This Issue

[PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: Michael K. Walker & Associates 849 Siesta Key Circle](#)

[Looking for the Latest Green Products? Green Building Media Picks Top 50](#)

[LEED Rated Buildings May Still Be Energy Hogs](#)

[New Green Globes Version Public Comment Period Opens](#)

[Osceola Approves Largest Development In Florida History - Deseret Ranch](#)

[Calling All Green Building Stakeholders](#)

[Tarmac's Topmix Permeable Concrete Absorbs Up to 1,000 Gallons Per Minute](#)

[How to Build Climate Resilience](#)

[What Green Means: Homebuyers Perceptions & Preferences](#)

[Florida Lawmakers Bringing Plastic Bag Ban to Session](#)

[BioSIPs: The New Eco-Friendly Building Material](#)

[Next Gen Waterless Urinals Address Industry Complaints](#)

[Jason McLennan Steps Down as CEO of ILFI - Creators of Living Building Challenge](#)

[Water Management Technology in High Demand](#)

[In Florida, Fears Grow that Environmental Damage Will Hurt Tourism](#)

[Overwhelming Majority of Florida Latino Voters Want Climate Action Now](#)

The green certification designation represents achievements in a comprehensive set of categories in addition to energy efficiency, such as water conservation, site preservation, indoor air quality, materials, and durability - including disaster mitigation.

To conserve water, low-flow water fixtures and appliances were installed, and reclaimed water is used for irrigation. In addition, the landscape consists of drought tolerant plants compatible with the local environment and grouped by maintenance requirements, such as sun and water needs.

All slab penetrations were sealed and a central dehumidification system installed to control moisture within the home. Low VOC paints, stains, finishes, and sealants reduce the risk of poor indoor air quality that can result in respiratory ailments, as does minimizing the use of carpet. Other approaches include installation of a controlled mechanical ventilation system, ENERGY STAR bath fans, venting to outside for range hoods, fireplaces and dryers, and an efficient HVAC filter.

Some other unique green achievements of this platinum-level certified home include:

- High-efficiency irrigation system that utilizes the geothermal well as the primary irrigation water source
- Geothermal heating and cooling (HVAC) used for the domestic hot water, the pool & spa
- The high-performance solar system produces approximately 15,000 watts
- Bamboo flooring
- An emergency power backup system
- High efficiency LED lighting

Serving as FGBC Certifying Agent, Drew Smith, President of Two Trails, Inc. in Sarasota, guided the project through the certification process and helped its green team optimize green strategies. [[More](#)]

Looking for the Latest Green Products? Green Building Media Picks Top 50

Today's resilient houses require the absolute best in sustainable products. Check out this year's standouts from Green Building Media. A few of the outstanding selections are:

[Bullet Pollution Threatens Water Quality in St. Petersburg](#)

[4 Steps to Get Product Life Cycle Assessment Right](#)

[FGBC Welcomes New Members](#)

[Education Opportunities](#)

[Calendar of Events](#)

[Certification News](#)

[FGBC Committee Meetings](#)

[Funding Opportunities](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)



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

Articles of Interest

[Jason McLennan Steps Down as CEO of ILFI - Creators of Living Building Challenge](#)

[Water Management Technology in High Demand](#)

[In Florida, Fears Grow that Environmental Damage Will Hurt Tourism](#)

[Overwhelming Majority of Florida Latino Voters Want Climate Action Now](#)

[Bullet Pollution Threatens Water Quality in St. Petersburg](#)

[4 Steps to Get Product Life Cycle Assessment Right](#)

Stay Connected



**FGBC Welcomes
New Members**

Elizabeth O'Neill
[Florida Housing Finance Corporation](#)

- **Whirlpool's HybridCare Ventless Duet Dryer** - Compared to traditional dryers that vent hot, moist air, the HybridCare dryer uses a ventless heat pump that dries and recycles the air inside the home, reducing overall consumption.
- **TOTO Carlyle II Double Cyclone Toilet** - Using just 1.28 gallons per flush (WaterSense certified) and a SanaGloss ceramic glaze that prevents debris and mold from sticking to ceramic surfaces, resulting in fewer chemicals and less water for cleaning, this is sure to be a homeowner favorite.
- **American Standard 4MXW8 Indoor High Wall Ductless Heat Pump** - Allows homeowners to complete room additions where installing ductwork is impractical or too expensive, or where the main system lacks capacity to expand. The 4MXW8 indoor high wall heat pump is specially designed to reduce operation noise, while providing efficiency up to 22.00 SEER. Its sleep function saves energy by automatically adjusting temperatures based on set sleeping time.
- **Panasonic WhisperRecessed LED Ventilation Fan** - The EnergyStar rated, architectural grade recessed fan/LED light has a powerful 80 CFM ventilation and a dimmable LED light; includes an integrated 4" or 6" duct adapter. UL listed for tub/shower enclosure when used with a GFCI protected circuit.
- **Cali Bamboo Greenclaimed Eucalyptus Flooring** - Greenclaimed eucalyptus flooring offers wood grains usually associated with traditional timbers with twice the hardness. Made from eucalyptus, a renewable material that reaches full mass every 14 years, this flooring offers a 50-year residential warranty and a scratch-resistant finish. Ultra-low VOC, the product has no added urea formaldehyde, and offers glue-free click-lock installation.
- **Green Edge EDGEhome System** - Green Edge's EDGEhome system replaces existing switches, outlets and lighting fixtures with wireless sensors to offer smart home capabilities without rewiring. Using a smartphone or tablet, homeowners can regulate energy usage down to an individual outlet for smarter energy consumption decisions, with savings estimated at 20 percent of electricity costs.

[Download the full product listing](#)

Tallahassee

Antoine Wright
[Big Bend Habitat for Humanity](#)
 Tallahassee

John Plecki
[Stock Development](#)
 Naples

Chad Imig
[Stock Development](#)
 Naples

Tim Smith
[All Elements Mechanical Corporation](#)
 Longwood

Gregory Mooney
[Fortress Builders of NW Florida](#)
 Milton

Jonathan Sands
[Stress Free Construction, LLC](#)
 Tampa

Yoann Andreu
[Everblock Corporation](#)
 Miami Beach

David Peach
[Polk County Board of County Commissioners](#)
 Bartow

Gary Huggins
[NDC Construction Company](#)
 Bradenton

Quick Links

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[GreenTrends](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Education Opportunities

October 13-14, 2015
FGBC Certifying Agent Designation Class
 FSEC
 Cocoa, FL
[\[Register\]](#)

October 13, 2015
2 p.m.
ENERGY STAR® and Green Building Rating Systems
 Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

LEED Rated Buildings May Still Be Energy Hogs

Some building experts suggest that spending 2 percent more upfront on green design features pays back up to 20 percent of the total construction cost over the building's lifetime. That may explain why the green construction industry expanded 15 times in the last decade and is now growing faster than non-green construction.

The upward trend is good news, since buildings are some of the biggest energy hogs. In the US, nearly 40 percent of carbon dioxide emissions can be traced back to energy used for heating, cooling and lighting buildings. Green architecture aims to reduce that footprint by going after energy and water efficiency at every stage of design, from the building's shape and orientation to what kind of light bulbs it uses.

But LEED certification may be misleading, Craig Schwitter, a professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, tells [Mother Jones](#). He cautions that putting the LEED stamp on a building doesn't necessarily mean it's all that climate friendly. As an example, he says the new Bank of America office tower in Manhattan was heralded as the first LEED Platinum skyscraper when it opened in 2010. That should have made it a model for sustainable urban design, but a couple years later, when the city released an inventory of its greenhouse gas emissions, the Bank of America building was one of the worst offenders.

Bank of America tower is not all that green. The problem, Schwitter said, is that not wasting energy isn't the same thing as using less of it. A building can meet all the green or LEED credentials in the world, but still draw huge amounts of power - and thus have a massive carbon footprint. That is precisely the case with the Bank of America building. "It's not that we're saving the energy, it's just that we're being less wasteful," Schwitter says. [\[More\]](#)

New Green Globes Version Public Comment Period Opens

The Green Building Initiative (GBI) released for public comment a revision to GBI's American National Standard, known as ANSI/GBI 01-2010: Green Building Assessment Protocol for Commercial Buildings. The revised Standard, designated [BSR/GBI 01-201X](#) according to ANSI protocol, is now available on GBI's website along with a public comment form at

October 15, 2015
2 p.m.
The Federal Guiding Principles Checklist in ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager®
Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

October 22, 2015
1 p.m.
How to Apply for the ENERGY STAR®
Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

October 27, 2015
1 p.m.
Portfolio Manager® 101
Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

October 28, 2015
1 p.m.
Portfolio Manager® 201
Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

October 29, 2015
1 p.m.
Portfolio Manager® 301
Webinar
[\[Register\]](#)

November 11, 2015
FGBC Certifying Agent Annual Verification Class GreenTrends 2015 DoubleTree-SeaWorld
Orlando, FL
[\[Register\]](#)

[Energy Star Webinars](#)

[Building America Webinars](#)

Calendar of Events

October 6-8, 2015
EEBA Conference
Denver, CO
[\[More\]](#)

October 14-16, 2015
Florida Energy Summit
Jacksonville, FL
[\[More\]](#)

November 12-13, 2015
GreenTrends Conference
DoubleTree-SeaWorld
Orlando, FL
[\[More\]](#)

Certification News

Commercial
Registered: 38

www.theqbi.org/ansi. The official public comment period runs September 11, 2015 through October 26, 2015.

Building Green provides a [summary of changes](#) on their website: www2.buildinggreen.com along with a related story about the [validity of the ANSI development process claims](#).

Osceola Approves Largest Development In Florida History - Deseret Ranch

The growth of Central Florida for the rest of the 21st century was set in motion by Osceola County commissioners last week when they adopted a blueprint for the future that would transform 133,000 acres of idyllic rangeland into a major new urban area of 500,000 people.

If the land-use changes adopted by Osceola commissioners Monday pass state review, they will have cleared a key legal hurdle that would make way for the largest single development in Florida history.

In 50 years, one of the least populated areas of Florida, straddling Osceola, Orange and Brevard counties, would blossom into a megalopolis larger than Orlando, Kissimmee, Apopka and Winter Park combined. The agricultural "North Ranch" part of Deseret, now bisected only by one-lane roads and populated mostly by cattle, would in 50 years become home to possibly about a dozen densely populated "urban centers," several "employment centers" and a "central business district," all with housing designed to be within a half-mile of commuter rail, light rail or rapid-transit bus lines. Development is not expected to even begin for 25 years. [[More](#)]

Calling All Green Building Stakeholders



The [GreenTrends Conference](#) brings together Florida's most influential green building leaders to tackle how Florida's built environment can achieve sustainability.

Join us in Orlando **November 12-13, 2015** for two days of cutting-edge green building conversation. It's a surefire way to propel your expertise and increase your value.

Certified: 13

High Rise

Registered: 43
Certified: 10

Homes

Registered: 10,840
Certified: 10,757

Single-Family: 7,844
Multi-Family: 2,913

Land Developments

Registered: 62
Certified: 13

Local Government

Registered: 79
Certified: 58

Recent Certifications

City of Plantation

Location: Plantation
Type: Local Government
Certified: 8/20/15
Score: 27%
Level: Bronze

City of Palm Coast

Location: Palm Coast
Type: Local Government
Certified: 8/28/15
Score: 59
Level: Gold

Elan 16Forty

Location: Fort Lauderdale
Type: High-Rise
Certified: 8/31/15
Score: 58
Level: Certified

Recent Registrations:

Place at Hollywood, Junior Anchor Shell

Location: Hollywood
Type: Commercial
Size: 37,292 S.F.

Aria on the Bay

Location: Miami
Type: High-Rise
Size: 961,727 S.F.

Brandon Palms Apartments - Bldg 1

Location: Brandon
Type: High-Rise
Size: 78,517 S.F.

Brandon Palms Apartments - Bldg 2

Location: Brandon
Type: High-Rise
Size: 68,345 S.F.

Everyone's invited!

Thursday's stakeholders' meetings are where you'll interact with a broad spectrum of green building enthusiasts as all of you design the next level of green certification criteria and tackle how to cope with more stringent building codes. Whether you're experienced in green building or just starting out, this is the "Rosetta stone" for gaining knowledge.

Friday is a full day of [education sessions](#) from industry experts. You're guaranteed to depart these sessions with a notebook full of ideas. Topics and [speakers](#) include:

- More Than Just Being Green: Building Your Community's Commitment to a Sustainable Future; Speaker: Joanna Nadeau, Director of Community Programs, Audubon International, Troy, NY
- Best Practice Designs for Cost-Effective Approaches to Low-Energy Commercial Building Enclosures; Speaker: Steve Easley, Principal, Steve Easley & Associates, Danville, CA
- Deregulating Florida's Solar Energy Market; Speaker: Mike Anthiel, Executive Director, Florida Alliance for Renewable Energy (FARE), Cutler Bay, FL
- Emerging Trends in Sustainable Planning & Development; Speakers: Brooke Myers, Founder and President, Emerge Real Estate Ventures, LLC, Orlando, FL and Jim Barnes, Director of Operations, Village of Wellington, Wellington, FL
- The Next Generation of Sustainability; Speaker: Dr. Jennifer Languell, President, Trifecta Construction Solutions, Fort Myers, FL
- Zero Energy Ready: The New Level of Expectations; Speaker: Michael Sollitto, Director of Construction, Habitat for Humanity South Sarasota County, Venice, FL
- Affordable Housing - New Initiatives to Finance Green Retrofits; Speaker: Kevin McCarthy, Policy Administrator, Florida Housing Finance Corporation, Tallahassee, FL
- Rural Development Opportunities; Speaker: Tim Rogers, Program Director for Multi-Family Housing Rural Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Gainesville, FL

Important Dates:

Early-Bird Discount Deadline: Oct. 28
Hotel Room Block Cut-Off Date: Oct. 30

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.

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](#)

EEBA Workshop Early-Bird Deadline: Nov 5

REGISTER NOW!

Tarmac's Topmix Permeable Concrete Absorbs Up to 1,000 Gallons Per Minute

Tarmac has created Topmix Permeable, a porous concrete that allows rainwater to flow through it. Topmix Permeable can play a fundamental role in the majority of Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) designs, providing a practical, long-term answer to surface water flooding that can be implemented quickly and cost effectively. A new, fast draining concrete pavement solution, it rapidly directs excess water away from streets, parking surfaces, driveways and walkways. Unlike conventional concrete, it has a high void content of between 20-35%. This allows surface water to drain through into the sub-strata and dissipate naturally, reducing the risk of surface water flooding and watercourse contamination. A sealer/hardener may be applied to the surface for aesthetic purposes and to prevent staining.

Being able to control and actively manage the drainage of rainwater from the developed landscape significantly reduces the risk of surface water flooding, protecting both the natural and built environment, while also reducing pressure on existing systems. New systems can be incorporated into the redevelopment of the existing infrastructure, as well as installed in new housing, commercial, and industrial developments, easing the pressure on overstretched drainage.

[\[More\]](#) [\[Brochure\]](#)

How to Build Climate Resilience

A growing number of major global companies are assessing the risks posed by climate change, but many still struggle to translate climate data into actions to improve resilience, according to a new report by the [Center for Climate and Energy Solutions](#) (C2ES).

[Weathering the Next Storm: A Closer Look at Business Resilience](#) examines how companies are preparing for climate risks and what is keeping them from doing more. C2ES also suggests companies and cities collaborate to strengthen climate resilience. Recommendations include:

- Companies can start with a limited-scope vulnerability assessment - focusing, for example, on the most critical parts of the business - to raise internal awareness of climate risks.
- Companies should facilitate regular communication across departments involved in climate risk and resilience - including sustainability, risk management, operations, and finance - and consider whether to change planning horizons to better incorporate climate risks.
- Companies, state and city governments, non-profits, and local experts should explore partnerships to analyze data, evaluate climate risks, do cost-benefit studies, and implement resilience planning.
- Not all companies report climate risk and the degree of detail varies significantly among those that do. Governments should look for ways to streamline climate risk reporting and provide more guidance on how to incorporate climate risks into financial disclosures.

Governments should improve public infrastructure and provide opportunities for the private sector to contribute to resilience planning efforts and investments. [[More](#)]

What Green Means: Homebuyers Perceptions & Preferences

What do consumers think of green homes? And, what are the most important elements of a green-built home? The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) recently released "What Green Means to Home Buyers: Perceptions and Preferences," a study of consumer preferences focusing exclusively on green/high-performance features in the home and the community. The study examines consumers' attitudes of various green features, concepts or terminologies, the resonance of those terms as potential marketing tools, and the likelihood that the home purchase decision may be influenced by any of these features or terms.

The study was conducted by NAHB in 2015 and is based on a survey of home buyers nationwide. Among the key findings, include:

Top influencers in a home purchase decision:

- 90% Safe community
- 88% Energy efficient
- 85% Low maintenance
- 85% Lower operating costs
- 84% Durable/Resilient

Common words home buyers use to describe green homes:

- 32%: Efficient, Energy Efficient, Water Efficient, High Efficiency
- 15%: Eco-friendly, Environmentally-friendly, Environmentally-responsible, Environmentally-safe, Environmentally-conscious
- 8%: Solar, Solar Power, Solar Energy, Solar Panels
- 4%: Lower Costs, Lower Utility Bills, Saves Money

[\[More\]](#)

Florida Lawmakers Bringing Plastic Bag Ban to Session

Long viewed with disdain by environmentalists, plastic bags could be banned under bills that will be considered during Florida's 2016 legislative session.

The bills would allow small communities in coastal areas to enact temporary plastic bag bans as part of a 2.5 year pilot program. While the details of the bans would be up to the communities themselves, advocates say the most common source of plastic bags - grocery stores - would likely be ordered to provide customers with recycled paper or biodegradable bags instead. *Reported by Troy Kinsey, Capitol Reporter, Baynews9.com* [\[More\]](#)

BioSIPs: The New Eco-Friendly Building Material



CU Denver architecture professor Julee Herdt built this structure out of her BioSIP system, super strong boards made of 100 percent recycled material. Credit: University of Colorado Denver

A University of Colorado Denver professor and former graduate student have been awarded a patent for a new, eco-friendly construction system that turns 100 percent recycled fibers into high-strength, easy-to-assemble building materials.

Professor of Architecture Julee Herdt along with former graduate student Kellen Schauermaun were awarded the patent for a construction system known as BioSIPS (Bio-Structural Insulated Panels) used to build walls, roofs and floors.

The system turns waste materials like paper, noxious weeds, industrial hemp and discarded forest products into high quality building products used in a variety of construction projects. BioSIPs boards are strong, lightweight and easy to assemble. [[More](#)]

Next Gen Waterless Urinals Address Industry Complaints

It's no secret that waterless urinals have a dubious reputation for causing odor and maintenance problems, but because of their significant water savings they have been installed in many green buildings - and then replaced at considerable expense.

The industry keeps adapting, though, and now Sloan contends that its Hybrid urinal has the advantages of a standard waterless unit with few of the drawbacks. Sloan's Hybrid urinal is water efficient and uses a pre-programmed, bi-weekly rinse that minimizes odor and maintenance problems. [[More](#)]

Reported by Building Green www2.buildinggreen.com