

September 15, 2015



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

UK to Test EV Charging Lane On Highways Later This Year

The British government is getting ready to test out new road technology that would allow electric cars to charge as they drive. The goal is to help drivers with electric and hybrid cars avoid frequent stops to recharge their vehicles.



Most electric cars get charged via plug-in chargers at home or while parked on the streets. Wireless power charging "pods" are also available, but they too require the car to stop to get more juice. The new charging roads proposed by the U.K. government will work kind of like wireless phone chargers, using magnetic induction technology. The initiative is slated to begin later this year, and engineers will install wireless technology in test vehicles and place special equipment under the roads.

Cables buried underneath the highway would generate electromagnetic fields that could be picked up by a receiver in the car and transformed into electric power. The system would include a communication system, so

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that the roads can detect that a car is coming and start the process.

For now, the trials will be restricted to test areas where regular drivers aren't allowed. The government is committing \$779 million to the project over the next five years. The government will also expand the number of charging stations available in the country, so there is a plug available every 20 miles. Similar technology is already used in the South Korean city of Gumi, where shuttle buses covering distances of up to 15 miles get their juice from underground power cables. [[More](#)]

Solar Powered Windows Generate Electricity

Two groups of researchers - one in the US and another in Italy - have created functioning prototypes for solar powered windows that harvest electricity from the sunlight passing through them.

A team of eight students at Western Washington University have won a \$75,000 grant from the EPA to develop their "Smart Solar Window," a unit that looks clear but turns ultraviolet light into electricity using [luminescent solar concentrator \(LSC\) technology](#) that power can reduce a building's heating and cooling costs up to 30 percent by automatically opening and closing windows to aid cooling and ventilation. The system can be operated remotely from a phone, computer or ventilation system.

Second, researchers at the Center for Advanced Solar Photophysics of Los Alamos and the Department of Materials Science of the University of Milan-Bicocca in Italy have developed a [non-toxic coating of quantum dots](#). The coating forms a luminescent solar concentrator that converts any window into a daytime power source.

Both groups hope to bring their amazing windows to market within the next year. Combined with new high efficiency construction techniques, they could help make the buildings of the future even more environmentally friendly and self-sustaining. [[More](#)]

New Tool Helps Rural Communities Assess Opportunities for Smart Growth

Rural communities are all different, with unique assets and unique opportunities. However, many rural

FGBC Welcomes New Members

Jeremy Nelson
Orlando
(Rejoin)

Ramona Madhosingh-Hector
[Pinellas County UF/IFAS Extension Services](#)
Largo

Kevin McCarthy
[Florida Housing Finance Corporation](#)
Tallahassee

David Haase
[Haase Design](#)
Melrose

Matt Zirkelbach
[RunBrook](#)
West Palm Beach

Quick Links

[Join FGBC](#)

[GreenTrends](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Education Opportunities

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

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

September 15-16, 2015
The Water Expo
Miami Airport Convention Center
Miami, FL
[\[More\]](#)

September 24-26, 2015
FNGLA Landscape Show

communities across the country face similar challenges-aging populations, lack of quality affordable housing, economic decline, childhood poverty, and depletion of treasured natural landscapes. The reality is that many rural communities have limited resources and planning capacity to help manage tough growth and development decisions. A new tool from EPA - the Smart Growth Self-Assessment for Rural Communities - responds to these challenges and can help.

The tool helps communities take a holistic look at eleven topics, ranging from revitalizing villages and town centers to supporting agriculture to providing housing and transportation choices and to improving health and active living, and then identify gaps that may be impeding the ability to reach long- and short-term goals. However, the self-assessment doesn't just identify shortcomings; it provides practical steps and policy alternatives as well as helpful case study examples from across the country. [\[More\]](#)

Ramanujam Tapped to Lead USGBC



The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) Board of Directors announced today that USGBC's Chief Operating Officer Mahesh Ramanujam has been named incoming Chief Executive Officer, and will move into the role after Rick Fedrizzi, the visionary co-founder of USGBC and current CEO, steps down at the end of 2016.

"Mahesh has a highly impressive track record of success in both

his role as USGBC's COO and as President of Green Business Certification Inc.," said USGBC Board Chair Marge Anderson. "He is a proven leader who has exhaustive knowledge of the organization, respect from its volunteer leadership and strong support from its team. He has extensive global experience and broad business acumen. He is the perfect choice to lead the organization into the future." [\[More\]](#)

Energy Star 2015 Certification Deadline Nears

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which oversees the ENERGY STAR certification process, has announced that projects wanting 2015 Energy Star certification must be submitted no later than

Orange Co. Convention Center

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

October 6-8, 2015

EEBA Conference

Denver, CO
[\[More\]](#)

October 14-16, 2015

Florida Energy Summit

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

Certification News

Commercial

Registered: 37
Certified: 13

High Rise

Registered: 40
Certified: 10

Homes

Registered: 10,802
Certified: 10,719

Single-Family: 7,806

Multi-Family: 2,913

Land Developments

Registered: 62
Certified: 13

Local Government

Registered: 79
Certified: 58

Recent Certifications

City of Palm Coast

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

Recent Registrations:

City of Aventura

Location: Aventura
Type: Local Government
Size: 36,981

Citrus Cove Community Park

Location: Palm City
Type: Commercial
Size: 1,234 S.F.

Fort Lauderdale - Fire Station #8

Location: Fort Lauderdale
Type: Commercial
Size: 10,000 S.F.

November 16, 2015. Incomplete submissions and projects submitted after November 15th will be put in the queue for 2016 ENERGY STAR certification. [\[More\]](#)

Green Building Outpaces Overall Construction Growth

The green building sector is outpacing overall construction growth in the US and will account for more than 2.3 million American jobs this year, according to a US Green Building Council study from Booz Allen Hamilton.

The [2015 Green Building Economic Impact Study](#) finds the green building industry contributes more than \$134.3 billion in labor income to working Americans. The study also found that green construction's growth rate is rapidly outpacing that of conventional construction and will continue to rise.

States in the top 10% of economic contributors for green construction (aggregate 2005-2014 historical and 2015-2018 forecasted data) include California, **Florida**, New York, North Carolina, and Texas.

By 2018, the study finds, green construction will account for more than 3.3 million US jobs - more than one-third of the entire US construction sector - and generate \$190.3 billion in labor earnings. The industry's direct contribution to US Gross Domestic Product is also expected to reach \$303.5 billion from 2015-2018. [\[More\]](#)

Working on the Green Summit Set for Oct 1-2



The Sustainable Florida's annual "Working on the Green" conference is recruiting state and industry leaders across the country to discuss the latest efforts in sustainability. Some of the featured speakers and highlights include:

- Secretary Jon Steverson keynote to share his vision for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection!
- John Masiello (California) to outline how the smart grid will lead to Smart Cities!
- Mitch Hedlund (Minnesota) to share the mission of Recycle Across America to improve the bottom line and increase recycling rates!
- The release of the County Sustainability Leadership Scorecard and a conversation with

Miami Worldcenter - Block G Apts.

Location: Miami
Type: High-Rise
Size: 816,679 S.F.

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

- county leaders about their sustainability plans!
- And - last but not least - the Best Practice Awards Luncheon!

The Thursday evening reception is sponsored in part by the Florida Green Building Coalition. Make your plans now to attend. [[More](#)]

[APA Florida Job Board](#)

[Green Dream Jobs](#)

[Florida Facility Managers Assn Job Board](#)

Abney Earns NGBS Green Partners of Excellence

Kyle Abney, vice president of Abney + Abney Green Solutions in Palm City, is a 2014-15 recipient of the NGBS Green Partners of Excellence recognition program offered by Home Innovation Research Labs.



The Partners of Excellence awards provide an opportunity for Home Innovation Research Labs to recognize the leadership, innovation, and excellence of its NGBS Green Certification Program partners and other champions of credible green building in the residential sector.

In addition to his verifier work with the ICC 700 NGBS Standard, Kyle performs green consulting services for the Florida Green Building Coalition green standards and the USGBC LEED programs. [[More](#)]

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Home Builders & Contractors Assn. of Brevard



The Home Builders and Contractors Association of Brevard (HBCA) is a professional, non-profit trade association, dedicated to the attainment of the "American Dream" of quality, affordable home ownership. We are actively involved in our local, state, and national legislature issues affecting our industry, and we are committed to providing educational and marketing opportunities to our members and to our community. We support a strong economic climate, while protecting the environment as the creators of positive community development to enhance our quality of life.

Our association is essential not only to our members, but to the community as well. We represent the best builders, suppliers and related industries in Brevard County and adhere to a strict code of ethics. We serve as a resource to local consumers and provide an online directory of our licensed contractors and members. Members showcase their talent, products, services and quality craftsmanship throughout the year in many county events such as the Parade of Homes™ and Dreamstreet Home and Garden Expo. www.hbca-brevard.org/