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**Countdown to GreenTrends 2013**

The FGBC annual GreenTrends Conference & Tradeshow starts in five days. But there's still time to register online. Your conference credentials will be waiting for you when you arrive.

On Wednesday, be sure you hit at least one or two of these workshops:

- **Land Development: Minimizing Risk, Maximizing Outcomes: How Design Impacts Resource Efficiencies**, presented by Dr. Pierce Jones, Director of the Program for Resource Efficient Communities at the University of Florida.
- **Affordable Housing: Breaking the Myth that Green Building Is Too Challenging & Expensive**, presented by Diana Giraldo, Sustainability Coordinator for the City of Fort Myers, and Karen Sutherland, Research Analyst for the Florida Solar Energy Center. Best practices and cost-effectiveness will be demonstrated using a 70-home retrofit project.
- **Local Government Sustainability**, presented by Rob Vieira, Building Research Director for the Florida Solar Energy Center, will explore the framework for sustainability decision making and implementation using the FGBC Green Local Government Toolkit.

Then on Thursday & Friday, we've recruited an expansive cadre of experts to take you through the entire green building process, beginning with building science concepts. From there we narrow it down to each phase of the construction process - building envelopes, energy efficiency, water conservation, including rainwater catchment systems, indoor air quality and materials, disaster mitigation, green retrofit considerations, owner education for proper maintenance, and then closing with marketing and selling green benefits. Pay attention and you'll leave the conference as a green building expert!

**Don't forget, GreenTrends education on Thursday and**
Friday is approved for the following CEUs, plus you could earn the FGBC Certified Green Professional Designation:

- 16 CEUs for Contractors-Course #0608298
- 12 CEUs for Architects-Course #9878267

State to Offer Rebates for Conversion to Natural Gas

HB 579, as signed by Gov. Rick Scott in June, provides a rebate of $25,000 per vehicle for conversion of commercial fleet vehicles to natural gas. Supporters said the legislation would encourage the development of refueling stations for the cleaner domestically produced fuel. The proposed state rules would provide rebates for vehicles placed into service after July 1 for fleets of three or more vehicles. Applications must be filed by June 30 of each year that funding is available. The initial application period for the current fiscal year will be established during the rule-making process taking place now. The department expects to adopt the rules by Dec. 10 so they can be in place by Dec. 31 as required by the legislation.

Rebate applications will be reviewed in the order received. The rule that would cut off review of applications once the annual funding limit has been reached appears may help avoid the controversy that arose over a recent solar energy rebate program. The solar rebate program ended in 2010 with a backlog of 8,720 approved applications totaling $47.9 million. The Legislature agreed in 2010 to pay about half of the backlog, leaving some applicants saying the state reneged on its promise.

Appraisal Institute Asks for 'Green' Revisions To FHA Guidelines

During a July 18 meeting hosted by the White House and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Appraisal Institute (AI) asked that policy revisions be made to the Federal Housing Administration’s lender guidelines as they relate to “green” and energy-efficient features.

AI reported that some underwriters have asked appraisers to remove income approach adjustments for green or energy savings and to replace the information with comparable sales that do not exist in the market. AI expressed concern about how much authority underwriters have to question an appraiser’s professional judgment when appraisals that
include green or energy-efficiency adjustments are being reviewed. AI recommended clarification on this important issue. The FHA said it will review those issues and others related to lender participation in FHA energy-efficiency mortgage and rehabilitation loan programs that are a part of President Obama's Climate Change Initiative.

**Big Builders Impact Lakewood Ranch**

Paul Thompson, CAE, Florida Home Builders Association, Tallahassee, FL

Recent residential groundbreakings at Lakewood Ranch have signaled a subtle shift in the builder landscape in the sprawling Southwest Florida community of Lakewood Ranch, according to a report in last week's Sarasota Herald-Tribune. Long known for being a place where local builders such as Neal Communities, John Cannon Homes, Anchor Builders and Lee Wetherington Homes built their reputations, Lakewood Ranch now has three of the top 14 national home builders. Lennar, Taylor Morrison and D.R. Horton all have put signs in the ground recently. "Lakewood Ranch is a place that we wanted to be for a long time," said Lennar's vice president Matt Devereaux. Local builders indicate they will benefit from the national companies' wider marketing reach to bring more attention to the development. Last week, Lennar broke ground on Bridgewater at Lakewood Ranch, which will contain 292 single-family homes. All homes in Lakewood Ranch, which was certified under the Florida Green Building Coalition's "Florida Green" Land Development Designation Standard, are required to be certified to the Florida Green Building Coalition's "Florida Green" Home Certification Standard.

**Indian River Bio Energy Center Recognized As First Commercial-Scale Ethanol Production Center**

The Indian River BioEnergy Center in Vero Beach is the nation's first commercial-scale cellulosic ethanol production facility. The project uses a unique hybrid of gasification and fermentation technology to convert wood scraps, grass clippings, and other waste materials into transportation fuel, as well as energy for heat and power. The Indian River County BioEnergy Center will have an annual output of eight million gallons of cellulosic ethanol per year and will produce six megawatts of clean, renewable power annually—enough to run the entire facility and provide excess power to the local community.
As the President's Climate Action Plan made clear, biofuels have an important role to play in increasing our energy security, fostering rural economic development, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

### How Green Building Is Affecting the Marketplace

According to the Navigant Research firm, with offices in North America, Europe and the Pacific, overall, green construction materials worldwide are anticipated to generate substantial market value. This market is expected to grow from $116 billion in 2013 to greater than $254 billion in 2020. Europe is forecast to be the largest of the regional markets in 2020, accounting for approximately 50 percent. [More]

Navigant also recently released its "Materials in Green Buildings" report that reviews the key market and regulatory trends contributing to the growing green building market, along with the commensurate growth in green building materials. It indicates that moving forward, market growth for green buildings and commensurate growing use of green materials will be driven by a mixture of:

- Strengthening policy and regulatory environments that prioritize energy efficiency and green design
- The growth in voluntary certification programs for green buildings, particularly in emerging markets
- Additional evidence that green buildings confer quantifiable market advantages
- Cost reductions in green design and green materials that come from better industry knowledge and experience and production economies of scale, respectively
- Consumer perceptions toward energy and resource efficiency

An Executive Summary of the report is available for free download. [More]

### Check Out the Latest APA Builder Tips

Proper Handling and Installation of APA Plywood Underlayment. One of the keys to good performance in floors is the right combination of subfloor, underlayment and finish flooring. This 2-page Builder Tip provides information on selection, handling, installation and fastening of APA Plywood Underlayment. Form R340

Proper Installation of APA Rated Sheathing for Roof Applications. This 3-page Builder Tip provides six simple roof sheathing annilation steps for the best performance and to
minimize complaint callbacks. Form N335

Florida Home Price Changes Mostly Better Than National Average

CoreLogic, a leading residential property information and analytics provider, recently released an analysis of home price trends during the first quarter of 2013 in more than 380 U.S. markets. Early estimates show that home prices increased by 10.2 percent, nationally, in the first quarter of 2013, the first double-digit gain since the peak of the housing bubble seven years ago. Record levels of affordability, a slowly improving job market, and very small inventories of new and existing homes for sale will continue to drive U.S. home price appreciation during the summer, the report stated. Florida metro area data is reflected below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metro Area</th>
<th>Home Prices Change (Q1 2012 to Q1 2013)</th>
<th>Home Prices Change (Q1 2010 to Q1 2013)</th>
<th>Home Prices Change 2013-2014 Forecast</th>
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<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>10.20%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>9.50%</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Duke Energy Cancels Levy Nuclear Plant

Duke Energy Florida announced August 1 that it was canceling the proposed nuclear plant in Levy County. The company in part blamed SB 1472, signed by Gov. Rick Scott on June 14, 2013, which now limits nuclear cost recovery to those costs related to applying for a federal license. The 2006 state law allowed utilities to charge customers in advance for costs associated with construction of nuclear projects. But Duke did not close the door entirely on the Levy County project. The company said it will still pursue a NRC license for the plant - something Duke could receive in late 2014 or 2015.

ARCSA Conference Offers
Rainwater Harvesting Training

This year’s American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA) conference, scheduled for November 5-7, 2013 in Austin, TX, will deliver an extensive look at the latest technology, the regulatory environment, new opportunities for the growing industry of rainwater system design for both residential and commercial applications, installation, and products. In addition, it will look at what the future holds for emergency and disaster assistance through rainwater catchment systems. [More]

Session topics will include:

- Rainwater harvesting as a water supply for landscape irrigation
- The variance between residential and commercial systems
- Legislative and code advancements
- Rainwater research
- A nationwide survey on rainwater catchment
- Rainwater catchment decision support processes
- The business case for water sustainability

Earn the FGBC Green Professional Designation

Credentials are what set you above the competition and distinguish you as an expert - the go to person for excellence. Don’t miss the opportunity to earn the FGBC Certified Green Professional designation by attending the Florida Green Building Coalition's annual GreenTrends Conference & Tradeshow set for August 21-23, 2013 at the Ritz Carlton in Sarasota.

This year we’ve designed the education program so that by attending both days and passing an exam you’re eligible to apply for the FGBC Green Professional designation. (Check the FGBC website for other qualifying requirements.)
This intensive 2-day program covers all the bases: building science principles, site development, building envelopes, resource and energy efficiency, water conservation, indoor air quality, effective operations and maintenance, and marketing the value of green. The program also offers the following continuing education credits:

- 16 CEUs for Contractors-CILB Course #0608298
- 12 CEUs for Architects-Course #9878267

**GreenTrends 2013** "bridges the divide" between standard skills and the new skills required to understand and successfully implement green building. [Register Today!](#)

### 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:**
- Patrick Kidd, Marco Island
- Kyle Reinson, Reinson Creative Consulting, Pittsford, NY
- Patrick Shannon, Ewing Irrigation Golf & Industrial, Canton, GA

**Sincerely,**

Suzanne Cook, CAE
FGBC Executive Director