City, County Going Green? In Florida You Have a Choice

ORLANDO - There are just a few communities around the nation loosely following principles once known in the construction industry as New Urbanism.

Pioneering developers and builders involved in Florida's sustainable communities and local governments have stepped up, creating new green neighborhoods, villages and towns promising a lifestyle that will literally not cost the earth.

This philosophy, first extolled in the 1980s, advocated small settlements of a limited number of residences with a clear neighborhood "center" and an appropriate number of schools, parks, retail and facilities.

Most recently communities certified Florida Green by the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) have raised the bar for sustainability and disaster mitigation.

With over 18,500 certifications since being founded in 2000, FGBC is by far the largest certifier of green homes, residential communities and local governments in the state.

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Babcock Ranch Presented Platinum 'Florida Green' @ Annual Meeting
ORLANDO, Fla. - Southwest Florida’s Babcock Ranch, with sustainability designed into the entire fabric of the community, has been certified a Platinum “Florida Green” community by the Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC).

Developer Syd Kitson of Kitson & Partners was recognized during FGBC’s Annual Meeting in Orlando. Kitson has been planning Babcock Ranch for more than a decade.

With over 18,200 certifications since being founded in 2000, FGBC is by far the largest certifier of land developments, green homes, high-rises and local governments in Florida. To date 64 land developments are either registered or certified “Florida Green.”

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Members Recognized for Regional Leadership by Northeast Council

Two members of the Florida Green Building Coalition, the leading certifier of green projects in the state, were recognized with annual awards from the Northeast Florida Regional Council.
St. Johns County Housing Partnership Executive Director Bill Lazar was presented the Northeast Florida Regional Council Regional Leadership Award.

Jacksonville's Ability Housing, known for developing and operating quality rental housing affordable to persons with extremely limited incomes, was honored with the Regional Award for Excellence in Affordable Housing.

"We are proud of these outstanding accomplishments by our members. They continue show leadership in areas vital to improving the quality of life, providing affordable housing and promoting sustainability in our state," noted FGBC Executive Director C.J. Davila.

Efficiency Begins Underground for NAHB 2019 Show Home

Home builders who want next-level energy efficiency recognize insulation as one of the keys to a high-performance home. That's precisely why builders of The New American Home 2019 went the extra mile with insulation.

FGBC member Two Trails Inc. is once again partnering with The New American Home project to track and evaluate the home's performance. The company's CEO, Drew Smith, says the 2019 home is "extremely air tight" and on track to be among the most energy efficient in the program's history.

Free tours of the home and complimentary shuttle services will be available to all attendees of the NAHB International Builders' Show® 2019 Feb. 19-21 in Las Vegas.
FGBC Members Attend National Sustainable States Network Event

Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC) President Barry Faske and FGBC Education Committee Chairman Ralph Locke participated in the national meeting of the Sustainable States Network (SSN) in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. SSN started using FGBC's standards in the late 2000's as guiding principles for the organization.

PHOTO GALLERY: Annual Meeting and Member Reception Held in Orlando

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