



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2008

MEETING THIS MONTH

Please join the Cape Fear Green Building Alliance (CFGBA) on **March 18th** for our next meeting & presentation. We will be hearing from **Shawn Ralston**, with **New Hanover County's Planning Department**, who will be discussing local government initiatives in place to encourage more environmentally conscious building. She will discuss the **Lower Cape Fear Stewardship Development Awards Program**, a local program to award developers and builders that go above and beyond minimum code requirements to build sustainably, as well as a **Low Impact Development (LID)** manual and spreadsheet modeling tool that is being created for the City of Wilmington and the County.

Ms. Ralston is a Senior Environmental Planner with the New Hanover County Planning Department. Prior to working with New Hanover County, Shawn worked for Mecklenburg County in the surface water program. Shawn holds an undergraduate degree from UNCW and a joint J.D. and Masters Degree from Roger Williams University School of Law and the University of Rhode Island with a focus on Ocean and Coastal Policy and Law.

* Please stay after the presentation for our forum discussion- topics by you and for you to discuss!! Plus we hope to get an updates on CFGBA projects, last minute tax issues, and other events coming this spring.

Meeting @ the Balcony on Dock St..
7 pm on the 3rd Floor. Come in the front door- where Roudabush Café used to be. Look for the CFGBA sandwich board! Refreshments @ Yosake & downstairs! Elevator if needed....
<http://www.thebalconyondock.com/>



Looking NE @ Dock & Front

MEETING NEXT MONTH!!!

In April, CFGBA will be **shifting nights** to have less conflict with other local governmental meetings as well as other community groups. Therefore, April's meeting (with Natural Building & Materials the topic) will be on the **SECOND TUESDAY** of the month, **April 8th**. All subsequent meetings will be on the **2nd Tuesday** of the month. Thanks for your flexibility & see you at **our new night** in April.

EVENTS



Various LEED Technical Review Workshops:

- 4/10/2008 LEED 2.2 for NC Technical Review- Chesapeake, VA. 8.30 am-5 pm.
- 4/23/2008 LEED approaches for Successful Projects- Columbia, SC. 8.30-5 pm.
- 4/23/2008 LEED 2.2 for NC Technical Review- Charlotte, NC. 8.30-5 pm. SOLD OUT.
- 5/1/2008 LEED for EB- Atlanta, GA. 8.30 am-5 pm.
- 5/29/2008 LEED for NC (New Construction)- Richmond, VA. 7.30am-4.30 pm.

Are you ready to enter the rapidly growing green building market?

Attend the LEED® for New Construction and Major Renovations Technical Review Workshop presented by the U.S. Green Building Council. Gain the knowledge needed to maximize both residential & commercial building performance, achieve LEED certification and take the LEED Professional Accreditation Exam. See the USGBC weblink; <http://www.usgbc.org/Workshops/Workshoplist.aspx> for details on specific events. Additionally, there are online classes for: LEED 101, LEED for Homes, and an Introduction to LEED for Schools. Prices vary.

3/19/08

HealthyBuilt Homes Orientation

8:00 AM - 12:30 PM. UNC Wilmington - Executive Dev't Center



Interested homebuilders and building professionals are invited to a half-day introduction to the NC HealthyBuilt Homes (HBH) Program, a statewide green builder program. You will learn how to participate in the NC HBH Program, focusing on:

- an introduction to residential green from a national and state perspective
- HBH program benefits such as education and technical assistance
- the benefits and HBH costs of residential green
- an overview of the HBH checklist which includes many residential green strategies

The NC HBH Program provides visibility, education, marketing support and third party certification of homes for residential builders who build sustainable, high performance homes. This Orientation is a requirement for builders who wish to build HealthyBuilt Homes; it is also an extremely useful workshop for all those who are interested in residential green building. Energy Raters who wish to pursue Independent Inspector status must take the Statewide HBH Orientation.

Who should attend: Builders, designers, realtors, energy raters; this is a good introduction to residential green building. Registration Fee: (current HBH members may attend at no cost) \$50 through March 12, 2008, \$80 after March 12, 2008
HBH builder members may send up to two employees to the Orientation at no cost.
Please contact Robert.McCulley@ncsu.edu for your membership discount coupon.

3/26-28/08

3-Day Photovoltaic (PV) Workshop

8:30 AM- 5:00 PM ea. day

Jane S. McKimmon Center, NCSU, Raleigh, NC

A subset offered apart of [RET II](#), attend this workshop to get basic and intermediate knowledge on how to harness the power of the sun. Understand how batteries, inverters, controllers, and photovoltaic panels form a system and how best to maximize its efficiency. You will also learn about the history of PV as well as different types of solar cells. Solar resource siting and service and maintenance techniques will also be covered. This will be a hands-on workshop so bring your electrical gloves and work boots! A solid understanding of the basics of electricity is required for this course.

Fee: \$840. Discounts: 20% discount for NC residents, 10% discount for each additional registration from the same company, or for small business owners, or if you register for the entire series in advance Visit <http://www.mckimmon.ncsu.edu/opd/course.cfm?cid=576&sid=2796> for more information or to register online.

3/29/08

Earth Day Volleyball Tournament

11.30 am sign-up, games @ 12 Noon.

Capt'n Bills. Wilmington, NC

To Benefit Earth Day, a Volleyball tournament will be held at Capt'n Bills Backyard Grill and Volleyball Facility (4240 Market Street - Wilmington) on Saturday, March 29, 2008. Sign-in begins at 11:30 and play begins at 12:00. Sign up at Capt'n Bills starting Monday, March 24 or by calling 910-762-0173. The price per team is \$80 in advance or \$100 the day of the event. All proceeds support the **2008 Earth Day Festival**.

4/3/08

New Hanover County Environmental Fair

6.30 pm to 8 pm.

NH County Central Library. Wilmington, NC

New Hanover County Public Library is having an **Environmental Fair** on Thursday, April 3, from 6:30 to 8 PM. The free event will be at the Main Library, 201 Chestnut Street. Local organizations and businesses working for a healthy environment (including CFGBA) will be there to discuss their various missions, activities, volunteer opportunities, and products. Please contact Justine Roach at 910.798.6306 or jroach@nhcgov.com

4/5/08

First Saturday Speaker

9 am to 12 pm.

617 Surry St., Wilmington, NC

Monthly educational speaker- To be determined.

4/8-9/08

5th Annual North Carolina Sustainable Energy Conference; *Our Future Now*

McKimmon Conference and Training Center NC State University, Raleigh, NC

North Carolina's future depends on the decisions we make today. Attend the 5th Annual North Carolina Sustainable Energy Conference to learn what local and national leaders are doing right now to strengthen our energy future.

This year's conference will focus on current forces driving energy efficiency and alternative energy, the role of infrastructure and carbon emissions and how new technology is making sustainable energy resources available and affordable. An exhibit hall featuring businesses and agencies doing work in these fields and an alternative fuels "Car Corral" will be available, as well an awards luncheon and an evening reception. Break-out sessions on April 8 will cover: Public buildings and energy, Mass Transit and Infrastructure, Residential efficiency update, Using schools to advance sustainability, RECs and Carbon Credits, New Technology Showcase, & a REPS update from our utilities

The April 9 sessions will feature targeted technical sessions for public agencies, architects and industry.

See; <http://www.energync.net/conference/> for updates and registration information.

4/12/08

North Carolina Azalea Festival Parade

9 am to Noon.

Downtown Wilmington

New and improved!!! More than just debutante balls, shagging, boxing, garden tours, and the circus!!! Come and route on the *Cape Fear Bio-Fuels Tanker and the CFGBA 'green' trailer* in the festival. We need volunteers to work on the float (re: trailer...)- so sign up at the CFGBA runboard!!!

Street seats; Free (BYO Chair)

Parade Bleachers Sections: A, B, C, D

\$8 Presale, \$10 Day of Parade

Section E: \$5 Presale, \$7 Day of Parade

4/16/08

A Public Forum on Wind Energy

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Jenkins Science Building/ Elizabeth City State University

The NC Solar Center, State Energy Office, and the North Carolina Wind Working Group invite you to learn about wind energy. This educational forum will be a venue for the public - from local government representatives, local environmental and business groups, farmers, residents and even tourists - to voice their questions, concerns, support or apprehensions about wind energy in the coast. This event is free.

On the agenda are: Overview of Energy Resources in North Carolina; What are the benefits of wind energy
Types of wind systems, and their advantages and disadvantages; How are wind projects sited and developed
Local wind resource

After the 30 minute presentation, the floor will be opened for questions. A panel of environmental and technical experts will be present. For more information on this coastal wind forum, contact: Lyra_Rakusin@ncsu.edu at the NC Solar Center or call (919) 513-7769

4/26/08

2008 Lower Cape Fear Celebration of Earth Day

Noon to 6 pm.

MacRae Park- Wilmington, NC

Come out for a fun-filled day of live music, good food, and environmental information and activities for all ages! Discover what issues affect our environment, talk with local groups, and learn how you can get involved. Bring the whole family to celebrate Earth Day 2008 from noon until 6pm on Saturday, April 26th at Hugh MacRae Park. **It is a FREE event!** The theme for the **2008 Earth Day is: trees please.** This theme was chosen to bring awareness to the issue of deforestation, with a specific focus on tree canopy cover in New Hanover County. We will focus on ways to educate our citizens on the benefits of trees with a special focus on native varieties. The event will feature over 40 informational environmental exhibits, a fun and educational Kids Eco Zone, live local music, and great food and drink from some of Wilmington's favorite establishments. In addition, we will also be adding a separate Green Market Tent to this year's festival. We envision the Green Market to be a place where local businesses, organizations, and area crafts people can share their renewable, sustainable, or environmentally friendly products for purchase.

If you would like to be a sponsor for this year's event, please contact Shawn Ralston at sralston@nhcgov.com or (910) 798-7444. Or, if you are interested in exhibiting or selling an item at the Green Market, contact Nikki Mitchell at nmitchell@nhcgov.com or (910) 798-7564.

Planning for 2008!! Green Conferences across the country:

Gulf Coast Green- Houston, 4/3 to 4/6. <http://www.gulfcoastgreen.org/>

GreenRoofs Conference- Baltimore, 4/30 to 5/2. <http://greenroofs.org/baltimore/>

Brownfields 2008- Detroit, 5/5 to 5/7. <http://www.brownfields2008.org/en/index.aspx>

NAHB GreenBuild Conference- New Orleans, 5/11 to 5/13.

http://www.nahb.org/conference_details.aspx?conferenceID=59

SOLAR 2008- San Diego, CA, 5/3 to 5/10. <http://www.ases.org/solar2008/>

Surface Water Conference- Orlando, 8/3 to 8/7. <http://www.stormcon.com/sc.html>

WestCoast Green- San Francisco, 11/6 to 11/8. <http://www.westcoastgreen.com/>

GreenBuild 2008- Boston, 11/19 to 11/21. <http://www.greenbuildexpo.org/>

PROJECTS:

Solar Powered Fountain Project

Cape Fear Green Building Alliance, is organizing the design and construction of a solar powered fountain/project in downtown Wilmington. The purpose of the fountain is to create a refreshing, aesthetically pleasing, relaxing space for pedestrians downtown, and to showcase state-of-the-art renewable energy & green building technologies in a local project. CFGBA's Victor Brown is heading up the Action Team for implementing this project- the team is meeting once a month outside of our usual meetings (Downtown library space). If you signed up for the project sub-committee and offered additional support, **please contact the CFGBA Administrator** at info@cfgba.org and check in with Victor and others at our general meetings.

OPPORTUNITIES/ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Volunteers!!

We are looking for volunteers to man the CFGBA booth at this year's Earth Day Festival. Sign up to volunteer on the CFGBA message board at www.cfgba.com. If you worked at the Home Show or at the Garden Show- thanks for your time- we're really getting the 'green' message out there!

We are also looking for volunteers to work on and ride the CFGBA 'Green Trailer' for this years Azalea Festival on 4/12/08. See the CFGBA runboard or talk with a board member at the next meeting!!

CFGBA Membership Update

We keep updating the website, and plan on a new relaunch of the CFGBA site design in early '08. Any prior year business members or sponsors will be considered current through 2007 (we now have more than 30, & one platinum!!). Memberships will run on an annual basis from January through December. Regarding individual memberships- whatever your level, **please 're-up' for 2008** to keep growing our ability to offer programs, advocacy and a voice for 'green building' and sustainable development in SE North Carolina.

If we happen to miss you (please pardon our growing pains- almost 500 folks over the last year or so have signed up on our e-mail list and our memberships have doubled in the last year....), please contact info@cfgba.com. Also visit our message board at <http://bcfgba7.runboard.com> to post questions and join discussions on current green building issues and related topics.

Cape Fear 'Going Green'

CFGBA member, Valerie Robertson, has been working hard on her new publication, *Cape Fear Going Green*. Later in 2008, the publication will be going monthly (after a special Earth Day edition!). Also- Going Green Publications is pleased to announce the launch of its new Web site: www.goinggreenpublications.com This Web site complements *Cape Fear's Going Green* magazine, which premiered this winter. It offers a comprehensive calendar of green events, a list of resources, a glossary of eco-friendly terms, and a forum for your green thoughts. It also allows viewing of current and back issues of *Cape Fear's Going Green*. Taken together, the magazine and Web site will serve as your guide to eco-friendly resources in southeastern North Carolina. Check out the site, or pick up a print version of the magazine at any CFGBA meeting or at distribution sites across the city.

Brunswick County rain barrel sale

After the Wilmington/New Hanover County water barrel sale netted over 270 barrels, a similar sale is taking place in Brunswick County. With all of southeast NC in a Stage 1 Water Conservation Alert- all homeowners (& renters) should be voluntarily conserving water. Consider that a 1,200 square foot roof generates 700 gallons of water with just 1" of rain! Be ready the next time it rains! Use a rain barrel to capture and store rainwater for your landscape and outdoor watering needs.

Brunswick Soil & Water Conservation District is holding a Rain Barrel Sale. The 65-gallon rain barrels are made from 100% recycled material and cost \$95. **Rain barrels must be pre-ordered by April 4th by calling 910-253-2830 or emailing prudy.gaskill@nc.nacdnet.net.** Quantities are limited, so order early! Rain Water Solutions, Inc. of Raleigh, NC is offering these barrels at an extremely reduced price of \$95, or 35% below retail. They feature an optional one or two spigot connection, a screen to keep out insects and debris, and a large overflow hose. Instructions are included for easy assembly. For more information about the barrels, visit www.rainwatersolutions.com.

Customers will make payment and pick-up their barrels on Saturday, April 12th from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm at Brunswick County Government Complex, Soil & Water Conservation District in front of Building F. Cash or local checks only. We cannot hold orders!

LEED for Homes!

While there are more than 70 other residential programs that attempt to quantify, educate and award 'green' house projects, the USGBC is now seriously promoting their LEED for Homes program. The new guide for LEED for homes will be shipped in April. The USGBC has also started a new website for its residential programs called the Green Home Guide. Here's a link;

<http://www.greenhomeguide.org/index.html>

You can pre-order it at: (price is \$75 to 125, depending on membership...)

<https://www.usgbc.org/DisplayPage.aspx?CMSPageID=1412>

USGBC factoid: 'The average new 2,500 SF home generates 2 TONS of waste that goes to landfills. Green homes send 50 to 90% less'

TAX TIME!!!

Here's a link to the DSIRE website for energy credits in the state of North Carolina. So if you've gone solar or increased your homes energy efficiency in the last year- take a look!

<http://www.dsireusa.org/library/includes/map2.cfm?CurrentPageID=1&State=NC&RE=1&EE=1>

Brunswick County Housing Coalition

The Brunswick Housing Coalition, chaired by Mrs. Resea Willis, has been going for a year or so building support and steam for the next steps of the development process. They continue to host monthly events on sustainable, affordable development and construction practices and technologies. If you are interested in helping the group in whatever fashion, contact Amy Scruggs at burtoscruggsllc@atmc.net or Resea Willis at brunswickhousing@aol.com. The group is looking to develop a strong communication network as they move forward with this housing initiative. (See topic this month!!)

Links & Things

Here are a couple of links to documents from NCSEA(North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association) regarding the state's REPS program and lobbying efforts the last year or so.

<http://www.ncsustainableenergy.org/publications/citizensguide>

<http://www.ncsustainableenergy.org/publications/legislativeguide>

In Case You Missed It..... In February, CFGBA had a presentation on indoor air quality (IAQ) **John Folger**, with **Air Quality Analytical, Inc. (AQA)**. He gave interesting overviews of mold, asbestos, formaldehyde, pollen, radon, and other VOCs, and how his company, **AQA**, does assessments, asbestos building inspections, and testing & specifications for remediation projects.

Scott Ogden, Secretary
Cape Fear Green Building Alliance
www.cfgba.org

Talk about mainstream 'Green' department:

Even HGTV is getting into it- they've built a new 2008 'Green Dream Home' in of all places- Hilton Head, South Carolina. It was recently awarded a LEED for Homes Silver rating! It's a modest 2,000 low-country cottage which focuses on their 7 tenets of 'green': innovation and design, location and linkages, sustainable site, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, awareness and education. In all their corporate cable TV largesse, they'll also be giving the house away this spring. (Be careful if you win though, several past winners have had to sell the house to cover the back taxes, and this one with Hybrid SUV is valued @ \$850K!!!).

<http://www.isucceed.com/Overwhelming-Hidden-Costs-Live-in-HGTVs-Dream-Home/real-estate-news/52532/>

They even have a 'blog' with updates and news on the project.

http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/green_home/

<http://blogs.hgtv.com/hgtv/greenhome/>

A one hour show will document the house and the process in multiple showings from late March through May 2008. See website for dates/times.

Mainstream green meets 'eco-terrorism'

The flipside of this story happened outside Seattle about 2 weeks ago when 5 houses in the million-dollar street of dreams were torched by arsonists (the ELF, or Earth Liberation Front) against urban sprawl. The homes, while 'Built-Green'- similar to EarthCraft in Atlanta, were over 4,000 SF and near a stream headwaters & protected salmon breeding ground.

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/snohomishcountynews/2004258337_arson04m.html

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/snohomishcountynews/2004258350_arsongreen04m.html

The development affected: <http://www.quinnscrossing.com/>