2010-2011 WNCGBC Award Winners!

Member of the Year  Member of the Decade
Daryl Rantis  Boone Guyton

Project of the Year
Old School Design ~ Build

1400 Sq Ft 3 Br 2 Ba
Infill Lot, Artistic Touches, Radiant Floor Heat, Passive Solar Orientation, Native Plantings, Trim
Wood Was Milled On Site, Low Flow Appliances, HBH
WNCGBC’s newest program, Neighbor Saves, is an amazing opportunity to finally make your home more energy efficient for a fraction of the normal cost!

Head to the website or give WNCGBC a call we want to tell you more! If you belong to a club, group, or organization of some kind we would love to come and present the details of the program so that as many people as possible can take advantage of this opportunity to save!!!

FORWARD THIS LINK!!! www.NeighborSaves.org

Second Annual Green Home Bike Tour

Take a bike ride through Asheville’s core neighborhoods and learn more about green building at the second annual Green Home Bike Tour on May 21st. The tour will include a variety of green properties and provide participants information on bicycle routes and alternative transportation options in Asheville.

Avid cyclist, Justin Mitchell with Mosaic Realty, will lead a tour of 6 properties ranging from a commercial green rehab to the first home built in Asheville from all nontoxic materials. Green building professionals will be available at select properties to answer questions and provide information about green features and construction methods.

The tour will originate at Biowheels Bike Shop and visit properties in the Downtown and West Asheville areas. The ride will be approximately ten miles in total distance and due to the hilly nature of the Asheville landscape a moderate fitness level is suggested and helmets are required.

Start: Biowheels: 81 Coxe Ave. Presentation at 12:00. Ride begins at 12:30
Finish: Biowheels: 81 Coxe Ave. Post ride reception will begin at 5:00

A suggested donation of $5 - $10 will go to benefit Asheville on Bikes a local non-profit organization focused on improving Asheville’s cycling and pedestrian infrastructure. Postride reception at Biowheels will offer refreshments from local craft breweries and food from Doc Cheys.

For general information or to register for the tour visit www.justinasheville.com. For specific questions pertaining to the bike tour contact Justin Mitchell with Mosaic Community Lifestyle Realty at justin@justinasheville.com or 828.713.9400.
500th HealthyBuilt Home in WNC

1st LEED Platinum Home in Asheville

Address: 32 Mardell Circle, Asheville
Builder: RS Motley, Rob Motley 828-776-7470
rmotley80@hotmail.com
Rater: Vandemusser Design, Matt Vande, 348-4723
matt@vandemusser.com
Silver level HealthyBuilt Certification
Green Features: 1251 sq ft, Airtight Construction, Infill lot, Low-flow water fixtures, Sealed crawlspace, R-23 insulation in the walls, R-50 in the ceiling, 15 SEER heat pump with very tightly sealed ductwork, Low voc paints, formaldehyde free insulation

1st HealthyBuilt Platinum Home in NC

Address: 53 Carrier Street, Asheville
Builder: JAG Construction, Jody Guokas, 216-0914
jguokas@yahoo.com
Architect & Homeowner: Douglas R Campbell, 828-273-0750
d_r_campbell@att.net
Rater: Vandemusser Design, Matt Vande, 348-4723
matt@vandemusser.com
Custom built home, LEED and HealthyBuilt Platinum
Green Features: Infill lot, rainwater harvesting and drought resistant landscaping, rain garden, very low flow fixtures, Solar hot water, Locally sourced materials
See home’s website- www.urbancottage.info

Address: 115 Carrier Street, Asheville
Builder: Jade Mountain Builders, Hans Dollegast
Architect & Rater: Vandemusser Design, Amy Musser, 348-4723
matt@vandemusser.com
Custom built home HealthyBuilt Platinum
Green Features: Infill lot, rainwater harvesting and drought resistant landscaping, rain garden, very low flow fixtures, Solar hot water, Locally sourced materials
See home’s website- www.urbancottage.info
LED Street Lights

The City of Asheville is pushing to increase its energy efficiency. Crews today begin replacing street light bulbs in two neighborhoods with LED lights. The LED's use dramatically less energy than standard bulbs, which leaders say will result in a significant reduction in energy costs. In this first phase some 900 street lights are being replaced in the River District and Kenilworth neighborhoods. Installation is expected to be complete by the end of June.

Solar Agriculture

Assistant Secretary Henry McKoy of the N.C. Dept. of Commerce’s Community Development Division has announced the launch of the 21st Century Communities Program partnership with Asheville’s Community Development Specialists and Green Brothers Solar to install 10 renewable energy demonstration projects on food producing farms in western North Carolina. The project was awarded by the North Carolina Green Business Fund with federal Recovery Act funds.

The grant, totaling $149,480, will help install seven solar thermal and three small wind turbine installations in the 21st Century Counties of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Graham, Mitchell, Rutherford and Yancey. The total amount of renewable energy generated by the installations will exceed 28,000kWh annually, a savings of at least $320/yr/farm for up to 20 years for a total savings of at least $64,000 for the farms, and will create at least 10 jobs.

Purple Cat

Owned and Operated by Asheville native, Peter Brezny, Purplecat Networks Inc. supports the community by donating service and support to to local non-profits, environmental, and arts organizations, and is proud to announce becoming a carbon-negative business!!!

Starting in September 2007, Purplecat Networks Inc. became one of several WNC businesses to go "carbon neutral" by contributing to the Western North Carolina Green building Council's "Appalachian Offsets" program. Going green is an important part of responsible business and we're delighted to participate in a program with such a significant local impact.

Furthering our commitment to the environment and responsible business, in March 2011, Purplecat Networks Inc. became WNC's first solar powered web host. Our new 2.1KWhr array, combined with our continued offsets through the Green Building Council make us a carbon negative business.

Purplecat Networks is dedicated to taking the worry out of your Internet presence needs, and can handle everything from Internic registration, to setting up individual mailboxes, or simply hand over the keys to your new site and let you take it from there. It's up to you, we're here to make you happy.
Want to go solar but you have a shady roof? You rent? You don't have $40,000? Last year, Colorado passed the first state law to create "community solar gardens" and the recent release of draft rules for Community Solar Gardens may open the floodgates, turning distributed solar power into democratic solar power.

A solar garden is a 2 megawatt (MW) or smaller solar PV project with 10 or more "subscribers" living in the same county. The solar gardens can be built by businesses, nonprofits, or utilities, but the operations must be handled by an organization solely devoted to the solar garden and its subscribers. Colorado utilities are required to purchase 6 MW of output from solar gardens by the end of 2013.

- No subscriber may own more than 40% of the solar shares.
- Compensation for subscribers is a proportional share of electricity (not to exceed 120% of consumption) and renewable energy credits.
- Half of the utility purchase obligation for community solar garden electricity must come from projects 500 kilowatts (kW) and smaller via a standard offer contract.
- 5% of community solar garden capacity is reserved for customers at or below 185% of the federal poverty limit.

The solar garden fills a major gap in solar policy, where those without a sunny roof were unable to make the switch to solar power. It overcomes the largest barrier to community solar: a replicable model for development. It also promises to significantly broaden ownership and participation in solar power production, making a much larger constituency for distributed, renewable energy.

Many who improve their homes with energy-efficient products do so with high hopes of return, only to find that their appraisals are disappointingly low. The reason is inadequate appraiser training. Matt Grocoff, host of GreenovationTV and the owner of Michigan's first net-zero energy home, has his own story about green appraisals gone bad.

This discouraging situation is happening more often as homeowners across the nation embrace green products for their homes. However, the problem is now being tackled with the development of standard guidelines for green appraisals. The Earth Advantage Institute offers a Certified Residential Green Appraiser course, and reaches out to brokers as well with the Sustainability Training for Accredited Real Estate Professionals STAR program.

Many lenders are now offering green home loan products for homeowners, and for good reason: the return on investment is a nice incentive. "For every dollar of energy savings that the home can gain, it would increase the value of the house by $20," Grocoff says. "Therefore, if you were to save $1,000 per year, that would increase the value of your home by $20,000. Savings on energy costs will only go up in value." Programs that have been in place for some time, such as the Energy Star Mortgage, Energy Efficient FHA Loans, the FHA Rehab Loan, and the FHA Title One Rehab Loan. Solar lease programs are also becoming popular for energy savings, but might not offer a tax credit.

To find the best financing for your green projects, start with brokers, lenders and appraisers who are familiar with energy-efficient products. Work with a real estate agent who has experience with green homes, and look for a lender who advertises their familiarity with green properties and offers home remodeling options that focus on energy-efficient improvements. Organizations like the Appraisal Institute can help you find qualified appraisers that can tell you what your home is really worth.
Appalachian Renewable Energy Workshop Series

May 14th through November 19th

AGENDA: Workshops and other training activities are one way the North Carolina Small Wind Initiative strives to serve the region in wind power adoption. Making use of the unique Small Wind Research and Demonstration Facility, the SWI holds workshops for all levels of interest on the “ins-and-outs” of small-scale wind power. Please see the following dates and topics to learn more about ways you can take the power in your hands.

See our Events Page for more information or click here to be directed to the full web schedule

CEU Credit Available

Home Energy Efficiency Classes

WHERE: Tri County Community College, Murphy, NC

When: 5:30-7:30

AGENDA:
Thanks to a grant from Progress Energy, OnTrack Financial Education & Counseling and the WNC Green Building Council (WNCGBC) are able to offer a two-hour class exploring energy efficiency upgrades that you can make to your home. The WNC Green Building Council estimates that most participants can expect to achieve a 30% savings in their utilities by implementing some or all of the ideas presented in the class.

Refreshments and $15 in Efficiency Materials Provided!

COST: $10

Mountain Green Conference

WHERE: Warren Wilson College

When: June 2nd 6pm-8pm June 3rd 8am-5pm

AGENDA:
Joining the professional networks of higher education, medical, development, planning, and business professionals in a day of keynotes, workshops, and lectures, will strengthen regional collaborations and educate for the best practices that result in vibrant, healthy, and sustainable communities.

Contact ph. 828-257-4475

COST: $165.00 Early Registration Fee for Both Days

CEU CREDITS: 0.800 hours CEU 7.000 hours Contact Hours 7.500 hours AMA PRA Category 1 Credit 7.500 hours CHES - CECH 7.500 hours Contact Hours

Stay Connected at www.wncgbc.org
For a list of all registered builders, visit: www.wncgbc.org/healthybuilt

LEED For Homes
LEED Buildings Certified: 10
LEED Buildings Registered: 63

WNCGBC is Proud to Announce Asheville’s 1st LEED Platinum Home!

Appalachian Offsets
Total tons offset to date: 3207

Visit www.AppalachianOffsets.org for more information and to offset your carbon emissions.

Upcoming ENERGY STAR Webinars
Thursday, May 26, 2011
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. ET
Answering ENERGY STAR 3.0 Questions

WNCGBC is happy to offer a free introductory presentation to any and all interested groups!

If You Have a Team or Group In Mind Please Contact WNCGBC at (828)-254-1995 or email info@wncgbc.org

Honorable Mentions: Build It Naturally, Forward Construction, Blue Ridge Energy Systems
Southern Community Bank and Trust is a full-service community bank with 22 banking offices throughout North Carolina offering personal, business, and mortgage services. We deliver all the products and capabilities of a much larger bank, while providing a level of personal attention that shows us to still be “small enough to care.” Stop by our location at 1751 Hendersonville Road in Asheville or find out more at www.smallenoughtocare.com.

Morgan-Keefe Builders is a custom home builder specializing in luxury lakefront and mountain estates. For more than 30 years, superior craftsmanship, attention to detail, and excellent client service have made MKB one of the most sought after luxury home builders in the Carolinas. More than 100 MKB homes are found in the region’s most prestigious residential and golf communities including Bright’s Creek, Balsam Mountain Preserve, Cashiers, Champion Hills, The Cliffs communities, Highlands, Lake Lure, Lake Toxaway, and Reynolds Mountain.

Living Stone Construction is a first-tier builder of fine custom homes in Western North Carolina. Our mission is to provide our customers with a new or renovated home that exceeds their expectations. We do that with an attention to detail and adherence to our five core values: communication, quality, integrity, value and timeliness. Recognizing that each home represents a significant investment with the potential for substantial capital appreciation, we aim to provide our customers with a home that will be a delight to their families for years to come.

For a Full List of Our Platinum Members Or to Join/Upgrade as a Platinum Member Please Visit our Website www.wncgbc.org or Call (828)-254-1995