

ECOLUTION

THE ECO-HOME
JOURNAL

Bulletin



SPRING 2003

ECOLUTION BULLETIN

E-co-lu-tion is derived from ecology, evolution & solution

Spring2003

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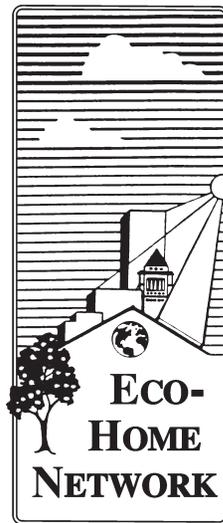
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SPRING 2003 ECO-HOME™ MEMBER OPEN HOUSE

**SATURDAY,
APRIL 26TH, 2003**

This spring's Member Open House is a double-header! On April 26th TreePeople's rainwater catchment pilot demonstration will be open to us and other visitors from noon to 1 pm, and Michael and Emma Muchin have graciously invited us to tour their recently completed home from 1 - 4 pm! As mentioned in "From the Founder," (page 7) the guided tour of the TreePeople site starts at noon and ends at 1pm.



Afterwards we can all convene at Michael and Emma Muchin's "house of light" designed by Duvivier Architects. Isabelle Duvivier, principal, will be there to answer questions. There will be refreshments and the opportunity to mingle and chat with other Eco-Home™ Network members. This house and the landscaping are unique and inspiring. Don't miss it!

ECO-HOME™ MEMBER OPEN HOUSE TREEPEOPLE'S RAINWATER CATCHMENT DEMONSTRATION

A recent study by the Scripps Institute of Oceanography predicts that, due to snowpack reduction and other factors, global warming could shrink the West's water supply by as much as 30% by 2050. Most of the southwest is already arid or semi-arid and depends upon other regions to supply a large percentage of the water needed to support their populations, agriculture, industries and public and private landscapes. The prospect of our water-poor areas becoming even drier as our population grows should inspire us to become highly creative in capturing and conserving the precious resource of water.

TreePeople has met the challenge with their rainwater catchment/storage pilot project, which will be open to Eco-Home™ Network members and other visitors on April 26th. The guided tour will begin at noon and last for one hour, until 1pm. Only one tour is offered, so be sure to make it on time to get the fullest understanding of how this highly effective, yet low profile, water conserving system works.

TreePeople has designed and retrofit-

ted the landscape of the little Craftsman bungalow at 1828 West 50th Street to function as a mini-watershed, capturing and reusing all rainwater that falls on the site. Electronically operated cisterns catch rainwater from roof gutters and hold up to 3600 gallons at a time for landscape irrigation. Retention grading in the front and back yards allows large quantities of rainwater to percolate into the ground rather than wash down storm drains. Water from the driveway is channeled to a drywell filled with sand and crushed rock, which strip it of auto-related pollutants before it seeps into the



Cistern catches and holds rainwater from the roof, makes it available for irrigation.

ground to recharge groundwater. Onsite recycling of yard trimmings keeps them out of the waste stream and provides mulch for the swale. The swale slows and holds runoff for absorption by the ground. Capturing stormwater at sites throughout the city could reduce water importation by up to 50%, alleviate flooding, reduce water pollution and create jobs.

Directions: 110 Frwy (Harbor Frwy) to Vernon Avenue exit. Go west to Western Avenue. Turn left. Go six short blocks to West 50th Street. Turn right onto West 50th St. Proceed to #1828 West 50th Street. Thomas Guide Page 673, H4.

ECO-HOME™ MEMBER OPEN HOUSE

KEYSTONE RESIDENCE

OPEN HOUSE

4407 Keystone Avenue, Culver City, California

April 26, 1- 4PM

Designed by Duvivier Architects, Isabelle Duvivier, AIA,

<http://www.idarchitect.com>

Eco-Home™ Members Free • Non members \$5

"A house is an integral part of our ecosystem." — Isabelle Duvivier, Architect

This transformation of an existing 1950's California bungalow into a contemporary passive solar "house of light" incorporates a number of environmental green building techniques including passive solar design, improved energy efficiency/natural daylighting, rainwater harvesting and habitat restoration. The driving design principle is that a house is an integral part of our ecosystem, and that it must be designed and operated with a goal of ecological sustainability.

Homeowners Michael & Emma Muchin approached Duvivier Architects to design their home in spite of the fact that they already had a design for a brand new 2-story suburban style house that was over their budget and didn't meet their needs. Principal Isabelle Duvivier convinced the homeowners that by incorporating elements of the existing house into the design of the new house, they could save



money and help the environment by minimizing the need for new raw material. The money saved could then be spent on better finish materials and more efficient fixtures.

The clients required that the yard and swimming pool could be seen from most rooms in the house for better supervision of their three children and neighborhood friends. The

resulting compact L-shaped plan, which wraps around the rear garden, takes advantage of the southern California sun, the magnificent views of the Baldwin Hills and available open space. All rooms of the house have been designed to have visual and physical access to the yard, which serves as an outdoor living room. The bulk of the house: the living room, dining room, kitchen and son's wing are part of the existing shell, but they have been redesigned to provide better cross ventilation, more efficient use of space, and better light and views.

The new south-facing two-story wing,

which contains the two daughters' bedrooms downstairs and the master suite upstairs, takes advantage of passive solar opportunities. Large openings on the south façade of the new wing draw in maximum light and sun in winter, while overhangs protect the house from excessive heat gain in the summer. The stone floors in the main rooms and south facing hallways act as a thermal mass; collecting and storing heat during the day and releasing it at night, while the native deciduous trees in the garden will provide protection from the hot summer sun when the tree is in leaf.

Many energy efficient strategies have been incorporated; all new exterior walls are 2 x 6 to allow for thicker than standard batt insulation, all existing walls, floors and roofs have been insulated for the first time, and natural daylighting in each room minimizes the need for artificial light during the daytime.

All windows are double pane, low-E to reduce unwanted heat gain or loss. Airflow strategies have been incorporated into the design of the window systems to allow the afternoon breezes from neighboring Ballona Creek to flow through the house. Two solar tubes and a skylight were installed in hard-to-light spots such as the bathroom showers and the north facing entry hall.

Use of recycled/alternative materials, such as engineered lumber, non-toxic paints and finishes are among other "green" features to be seen. A solar heating system for the pool is planned for next year.

Roof water collection from the new wing feeds into a mini-wetland or rain garden. Rainwater collection reduces the amount of storm water that enters the storm drain system thereby reducing the amount of pollution that enters Ballona Creek and the Santa Monica Bay. The overflow entering the constructed wetlands will increase the amount of water that is allowed to percolate back into the underground aquifers.

Native riparian plants such as Creek Monkey Flower, Hummingbird Sage, Willows and California Toyon, were planted in the yard which is near Ballona Creek and was once a part of this creek ecosystem. The plant palette was designed to: provide food and habitat for native birds and butterflies, to absorb underground water that flows beneath the site as part of the natural hydrology, to require no watering after 2 years and be a learning tool for the children of the house and

their many visitors about the importance of water conservation and native plants.

Transitioning the front yard rooflines gracefully away from the street, and maintaining the existing street rooflines and presence, has accomplished an easy integration of this new home into the existing neighborhood. And opening up the

house to the rear of the property allows the clients to enjoy the year-round ability to be inside/outside in the sunny Southern California climate.

We are very grateful to owner/residents Michael and Emma Muchin for so



graciously allowing us to visit their home once again. Our thanks go also to Architect Isabelle Duvivier who has offered to be in attendance to answer any questions. Even if you visited this site on the Homes for the Future Tour 2001, you'll be amazed by the beauty and environmental sophistication of the finished, furnished structure and landscape. I



look forward to seeing you there!

Directions:
Take 10 Frwy (Santa Monica Frwy) to Venice Blvd. Exit. Turn Left. Take Venice Blvd. to Overland Avenue. Turn left. Cross Washington Blvd. Continue to Culver Blvd. Turn left. Go one block to Keystone Ave. Turn right onto Keystone Ave. Proceed to 4407 Keystone Avenue. Thomas Guide page 672, 63.



MEMBERSHIP ALERT

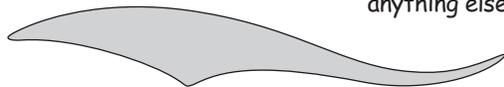
Can't remember when you last renewed your Eco-Home Network membership? Unfortunately, E-HN is without a Membership Chair, so you probably haven't received a renewal letter (I did send some out a while back.) We finally have these spiffy membership remittance envelopes, one of which should be enclosed in this newsletter, so if the date on your address label is over (or close to) a year old, please help us out and send in your renewal. Remember, your whole household can join for just \$35.00 (or \$25.00 for an individual).

And...as I mentioned, we are without a Membership Chair, so if you have a few hours a month to send out renewal letters, you could be that person. Think how much easier it is on you when you are notified that it is time to renew — rather than having to "divine" it! If you can help us out (since I am obviously not doing a very good job of it), please call me at 626-345-9596, or email me at janhoag@earthlink.net

Thanks-

JAN HOAG, E-HN TREASURER & VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

(Let me know if you want to volunteer for anything else, too!!)



FROM THE FOUNDER

What is colorless, odorless, falls from the sky and is more valuable to life than gold?

Those of us with our antennae tuned to environmental news are aware of the growing shortage of potable (drinkable) water world wide and even here in the United States. Eco-Home™'s headquarters is located in semi-arid Los Angeles, which outgrew its indigenous water resources as long ago as the turn of the 20th century. The first response of the City of the Queen of Angels to the dilemma is dramatized in the movie "Chinatown". Having bamboozled the farmers and townspeople of Owens Valley out of their water rights, it commissioned Bill Mulholland to design and build the Los Angeles aqueduct. The aqueduct was an engineering masterpiece, bringing the water of Owens Valley over 250 miles to the city of Los Angeles without need of a single pump.

Since then we've built many aqueducts from as far north as the BayDelta area and east to the Colorado River. Still the population and the demand for water grows until now we have come to the end of fresh water sources to tap and are focussing on conserving, recycling and reclaiming the water we've already brought here. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) has many projects for water conservation, recycling, reclamation and even desalination. (See pg. 23). In a recent National Public Radio interview Adan Ortega, Vice President for External Affairs of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, emphasized two main areas for water conservation: one was replacing water thirsty lawns and plants with native, drought tolerant landscapes, and the other was water desalination. While both these are critical programs, I was surprised that rain-

water catchment was not mentioned. Rain is our only source of new fresh water, is replenished each winter to a greater or lesser degree and is largely wasted through poor water management.

**Water Retention is a GOOD Thing!
April 29th Member Open House(s)**

I'm thrilled to announce that both sites on our spring Member Open House on April 26th include ingenious, practical and even elegant systems of rainwater catchment and use. Both the TreePeople's rainwater catchment pilot project on West 50th Street and the home of Michael and Emma Muchin on Keystone Avenue are great examples of excellent and very different residential strategies for conserving water and reducing run-off through catching, retaining and redirecting rainwater. (See page 2)

Homes for the Future Tour 2002 (H4F)

Tour 2002 was our most successful ever with 9 fabulous sites, over 1,300 site visits and income actually covering expenses! There were many compliments on its smooth execution, which must be credited to Mary Proteau's professional production of the event. Media attention surpassed past years, and still continues (!), due to Mae Woods' high competency and thoroughness.

Thanks also to our generous sponsors, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, the City of Santa Monica, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, the Los Angeles Department of Public Works, the Building Industry Institute and Warner Bros., whose early financial support enabled our engagement of the professional production staff to successfully bring forth Tour 2002. You'll

find the first two in a planned series of feature articles on our sponsors on pages 18 and 23 of this issue.

Heartfelt thanks to our homeowners whose gracious hospitality and fascinating and inspiring "homework" was noted appreciatively by many visitors on their evaluation forms.

And, once again, Jan Hoag and her volunteer legion of our best and brightest staffing the reception areas at each site made the Tour a great experience for everyone. Thank you all so very much.

Video: GoinGreen — Homes for the Future

We're raising funds as quickly as possible for our video production, **GoinGreen—Homes for the Future**, to be co-produced by Mary Proteau and Judith Vogelsang. Our goal is to start production on June 1st, 2003. This would enable us to submit it for broadcast as early as October 2003. In order to achieve this goal we have to have the full budget of \$83,000 in hand by June 1st.

We can use all the help we can get! If you have contacts you think might be able and interested in contributing to this project, please let us know. We would love to work with you to develop those contacts. We can provide you with a full proposal, budget, producer bios and everything else you need to approach a prospect. And, of course, if you, yourself, have the resources to make a major contribution, please contact us immediately!

Website

The Eco-Home™ Network website, <http://www.ecohome.org>, is finally coming into focus for me. I have to admit, my old brain just hasn't be able to encompass cyberspace until now. Belated thanks to Ron Swenson, Scott Supak and Sandro Pellegrino, for all their years of dedicated sup-

port of the site with absolutely no recognition from me. I have no excuse, other than being awfully slow to recognize and move into cyberspace. I believe it was Sandro who designed the stunning opening image of our site, a gorgeous picture of planet earth in black space with Eco-Home™ in a bright olive green emblazoned across it. I love it and can't think of a more appropriate image for us. Thank you Sandro! And thank you Ron for still keeping track of and footing the bill for our ownership of the domain name, Eco-Home. And Scott, thank you and Ron for holding it together somehow for years while I was unconscious of it.

But now I'm waking up and Bert Green, the designer of this newsletter, has become our Webmaster, having taken over the day to day management of our website. He's doing a fine job and I'm starting to remember to think about getting useful and important information to him. His presentation of Tour 2002 was exciting and people were able to easily download relevant information. We had a really nice little piece on Holiday Ecology during the holidays to give you ideas for greener holiday celebrations.

And this is the first issue of Ecolution to be posted on our website!

Permaculture Opportunities

Starting on August 9th through September 28th there is a rare and wonderful opportunity to host an Urban Permaculture course and receive the benefit of a permaculture design for your site. See page 14 for more information.

Outreach

Since the beginning of 2003 we have had a presence at two community events, thanks to volunteers Dessa Kaye, Pam Shriver and Raynel Chaves, Janet Aniline, Emmanuel Culman, Leslie Hope, Julia Hoover, Stacy

Soderholm, Saran Kirschbaum, Larry Byrnes, Glenna Citron and Catherine Kelsey.

The Organic Odyssey, held at David Hertz's expanded home site on McKinley Avenue in Venice, was intended to educate people in the forefront of media and publicity/advertising on the environmental importance of organic products and the economic significance of the growing market for these products.

The Conscious Living Expo was held on Feb. 14th - 16th at the LAX Hilton. Eco-Home™ Network was one in a small but distinguished group of environmental or "green" oriented groups along with Greenpeace, LA Green Power and 3 Phases Energy Services. I was pleased to have the opportunity to give a lecture/slide show with the goal of helping people in the conscious living movement make the link to "green" living. My message is that having awareness of and understanding of the impact of one's daily choices and actions on the rest of the family of life on earth is intrinsic to living consciously. I do hope to see an increase in the presence of "green" groups in conscious living events and vice-versa.

Eco-Renovation

Apologies for the long hiatus in reporting on the continuing eco-renovation of Eco-Home™. Frankly, it is a story of such mismanagement that I have been reluctant to confess it. Despite it all, the kitchen remodel is now nearly complete. It is beautiful and functional and enhances the whole house. Starting in the next issue of Ecolution Bulletin, the story will be told.

Action Alerts

We have several Action Alerts in this issue of Ecolution. Please try to take action on each one. Sometimes it's hard to feel that one's individual action makes a difference. But imagine your action multiplied by hun-

dreds, thousands or millions, as other individuals also act, and you see the power of cultural/social change in action. One of the founding concepts of the Eco-Home™ Network is that social change starts with and rests upon individual change. This holds true both locally and globally.

The greatest source of hope for the world today is the awakening of populations here and abroad to their individual responsibility for and power to influence the actions of nations. As dark as the news often seems today the light shining through is the appearance of an emerging democracy of the world as millions of individuals of all nationalities join together to hold nations to lawful and compassionate conduct in achieving their goals rather than military force.

The United Nations provides the framework of a world that works on democratic principles. Each and all of us must and are stepping forward to embody a world governed of, by and for the people. We may be witnessing and participating in the agonizing death throes of a world enthralled by empire as the seedlings of democracy crumble its bastions.

Garden Notes

Seeds for Eco-Home's summer garden were planted in February. (On time, for once!) The seedlings are doing well in their pony packs, which I bring outside each morning and inside each night to protect from the nighttime chill.

The winter garden is providing me with broccali, cauliflower, peas, beets, cilantro, lettuce and cabbage. A surprise gift has been the persistence of one tomato vine through the winter, providing the sparkle of tomatoes to my bean and vegetable stews.

Peace.

JSR

CLEAN ENERGY HEATS UP!

California Recently Took A Giant Leap Toward A Cleaner Energy Future!

On February 12th, Gov. Gray Davis signed into law the strongest renewable energy bill in the United States, ensuring that 20 percent of California's energy will come from clean energy sources in the next 15 years. The law will move our state away from dirty, old and unreliable power by increasing our use of wind, solar and geothermal power sources.

Currently California obtains about 10 percent of its electricity from clean energy. The new law will require all retail sellers of electricity to add between one and two percent of clean power to their power mix every year until they reach 20 percent, and establishes a deadline of having all energy providers reach that percentage by 2017.

The law also protects consumers from rate hikes. The costs of renewables are tied to the cost of natural gas over an equal period of time. If any renewable contracts are higher than this benchmark price the California Energy Commission will use the Public Good Charge to "buy down" the cost of the renewable contracts.

Please take a moment to thank Governor Davis and let him know you look forward to his continued support of clean energy initiatives.

Governor Gray Davis, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: 916-445-2841, Fax: 916-445-4633

e-mail: governor@governor.ca.gov

—ED BEGLEY, JR.

LA Could Be Cooking With Wind!

Mayor Hahn unveiled a proposal for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) to create a wind generating facility that will represent the most significant step yet toward reaching his goal of dramatically increasing the amount of renewable energy generated by the city's electrical utility. The Pine Tree Wind Project, which will be the largest municipally owned wind plant in the U.S., will reduce LADWP's dependence on fossil fuels, saving approximately \$14 million a year in gas costs, and reducing the utility's carbon dioxide emissions by more than 210,000 tons each year. The facility will consist of 80 wind turbines located 12 miles north of Mojave, CA. When completed, it will produce up to 120 megawatts of electricity, enough power for more than 100,000 households.

To let Mayor Hahn know you support the Pine Tree Wind Project and increasing renewable energy for LA write the Mayor at City Hall, 200 No. Spring Street, LA CA 90012, or fax him at 213-978-0656.

For more information, contact Martin Schlageter, 310-441-1544 x 333.

IN MEMORIAM

We are grieved to announce that one of our beloved volunteers, Richard Citron, passed away on the night of January 31st, 2003. We knew him as a warm person, generous with his time on behalf of Eco-Home™ Network programs. His presence anchored each of the many volunteer teams in which he participated with steady good cheer and effectiveness. Richard's wife, Glenna, prompted him to attend his first Eco-Home™ Network event in 1999. He and Glenna opened their beautiful, environmentally renovated home to Eco-Home™ Network members on more than one occasion. He is missed. Our deepest sympathies go to Glenna, a long-time Eco-Home™ Network Board member, and to sons Eli, Austin and Travis.

GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) FOOD LABELING ALERT

The Organic Consumers Association (OCA) has begun a nationwide petition drive and lobbying campaign to get 2.5 million organic consumers (5,000 in each Congressional District) to support Ohio Congressman Dennis Kucinich's federal bills for mandatory labeling and safety testing of GE foods, introduced into the US Congress in May. California OCA members have also been lobbying Senator Barbara Boxer to introduce similar bills in the US Senate. Last year a Kucinich labeling bill gained over 50 co-sponsors, but failed to reach the floor of the House for a vote. Let's all push to get this and several companion bills onto the floor and passed this year!

H.R. 4812 The Genetically Engineered Crop and Animal Farmer Protection Act of 2002

H.R. 4813 The Genetically Engineered Food Safety Act of 2002

H.R. 4814 The Genetically Engineered Food Right To Know Act of 2002

H.R. 4815 Real Solutions to World Hunger Act of 2002

H.R. 4816 The Genetically Engineered Organism Liability Act of 2002

For more information on these bills, please contact the office of Representative Dennis Kucinich at 202-225-5871, or see <http://www.house.gov/kucinich>

Contact Congress!

To find your representative call the congressional switchboard at 202-225-3121 and they will connect you. Request that they co-sponsor the bills listed above.

Call or Fax

Tell these companies to remove GE ingredients, including recombinant bovine growth hormone (rBGH), from their brand name products.

COMPANY	TEL #	FAX #
Starbucks	800-235-2883	206-447-3432
Kraft/Nabisco	800-543-5335	847-646-2922
Shaws	888-431-7429	508-313-3111
Kellogg's	800-962-1413	616-961-2871
Frito-Lay	800-352-4477	972-334-5071
Campbell Soup	800-257-8443	856-342-3878
Quaker Oats	800-367-6287	
Nestle	800-225-2270	818-549-6952
Safeway	877-723-3929	925-467-2005
Heinz Foods	888-472-8437	412-456-6128
Procter & Gamble	800-331-3774	
McDonald's	630-623-6198	630-623-6942
Coca-Cola	800-438-2653	770-989-3640
General Mills	800-328-1144	612-764-8330
Hershey's	800-468-1714	888-431-7429

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CONFERENCES

April 10-11
4th Annual Recycled Products Show, Sacramento, CA. Sponsored by the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Contact: 916-341-6479. <http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/buyrecycled/Events/>

April 10-13
Holistic Options for Planet Earth's Sustainability-HOPES Conference on Ecological Urbanism Eugene, OR. Sponsored by the University of Oregon Department of Architecture and Allied Arts. Lois Arkin, Founder, CRSP/L.A. Eco-Village, will be a keynote speaker along with Mark Lakeman of Portland City Repair; Stuart Cowan, co-author "Ecological Design"; and Kathryn McCamant, co-author of "Cohousing: A Contemporary Approach to Housing Ourselves;" Richard Register of Eco-City Builders; and Jim Leach of Wonderland Hill Development Company. For schedule details and very affordable fees, see: <http://edc.uoregon.edu/index.html>

April 18
Garden Saturday, 10am-2pm. A tour of unique home gardens throughout Long Beach. RSVP please. \$5. Contact: Long Beach Organic, Tel.: 562-438-9000, Fax: 562-439-0327, <http://www.longbeachorganic.org>

April 19-20
Eco-Maya Festival: Mother Earth Day Celebration Los Angeles City College. Connecting environment, culture & heritage. Celebrating our culture and protecting Mother Earth. Contact: Julio Santizo, 323-960-7879, 213-387-0491 or ecomaya@azteca.net, <http://www.ecomayafestival.com>

April 19
Earth Day on the Promenade, Santa Monica, CA. An event for all audiences. Join the eclectic mix that frequents the 3rd Street Promenade. Live music and stage. Contact Polly Doven at 310-641-0021, EarthDayLA@yahoo.com or fax: 310-362-8400.

April 26 & 27th
Festival for the Earth, Eldorado Park, Long Beach, CA. Two day environment and community celebration with live music, dancing and art. Great opportunity to reach out to South Bay audiences! Contact JenniferGordon at 818-242-9108, Jennifer@YourGreatEvent.com or fax: 310-242-1237.

April 26
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium Earth Day. San Pedro, CA. Family festivities range from an early morning beach clean-up to bird watching and visiting the adjacent salt

marshes. Come spend a couple hours with community members and aquatic life. Contact: 310-548-7562. <http://www.cabrilloaq.org>

April 27
Eco-Station Earth Day, Culver City, CA. Family event at a wildlife rescue center. <http://www.theecostation.org>.

April 30-May 2
EnvironDesign7, Washington D.C. Sponsored by Interiors & Sources. Contact: 561-627-3393 <http://www.isdesignet.com>

May 1-3
Building the Town Green: Sustainable Conference & Expo, Philadelphia, PA. Sponsored by Delaware Valley Green Building Council et al. Contact: 215-546-0724

May 7-10
11th Rinker International Conference on Deconstruction and Materials Reuse, Gainesville, FL. Sponsored by the Center for Construction and Environment, CIB Task Group 39, and UBMA. Contact: Dr. Abdol Chini, 352-392-7502, chini@ufl.edu, <http://www.cce.ufl.edu/rinker11>

May 8-10
AIA 2003 National Convention & Expo, San Diego, CA. Contact: 800-242-3837, <http://www.aia.org>

May 17
Know Your Herbs. Cultivation, identification, and use of various medicinal and culinary herbs \$15. RSVP, please. Contact: Long Beach Organic, Tel.: 562-438-9000, Fax: 562-439-0327, <http://www.longbeachorganic.org>

May 18-21
Windpower 2003: Conference and Exhibition Austin, TX. Sponsored by the American Wind Energy Association. Contact: 202-383-2500. <http://www.awea.org/conference>

May 27-30
Global Warming XIV: Extreme Events & Energy, Agricultural and Natural Resource Management, Boston, MA. International conference on global warming and strategies for slowing it and coping with it. Conference Fax Hotlines: 630-910-1561 or 630-910-1561.

June 18-20
Where Significance Meets Success: 7th LOHAS Market Trends Conference, Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, Colorado. Register by March 28 — save \$200. Register by May 15 — save \$100. Regular conference price is \$995. Join key leaders and top speakers for three days of high-level networking, education and

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WORKSHOPS

March 15th & 16th
Make a Clay Pot to Live In! Escondido, CA. Learn to handcraft your own earth home, an environmentally sound cob home that is beautiful, affordable, non-toxic, long lasting and everything you've ever dreamed of with Beckey Bee of Groundworks. Fee: \$25 - \$50 per day - sliding scale. Send \$20 deposit to reserve your place to: Carla Coleman, 1975 Alexander Dr., Escondido, CA 92025. Questions? email amaranth2@earthlink.net or call 760-743-3202 evms. before 8:30

May 18-25
Women's Natural Building Symposium, Parthenon, Arkansas. Sponsored by Riverspirit and Becky Beel. Registration limited to 40 women. Girl children are welcome, though no child-care is provided. No dogs please. The sixth Women's Natural Building Symposium and Hands-on Extravaganza! The 1st east of the Rockies! Be part of adding the final touches to a sacred Temple of Earth, straw, wood, and stone in the beautiful Ozark Mountains beside a gorgeous swimming hole on the shore of the Little Buffalo River. Co-create cob, earth floors and natural plasters. Spark new connections, friendships and work partners. Share your ideas, energy, skills, dreams and magic! Calling all women interested in creating healthy healing homes and sacred spaces! Builders, designers and women in related fields; artists, musicians, networkers and activists concerned with the environment and affordable housing. Schedule created communally. All offer skills and everyone is a teacher. Let us know what you want to share..... be bold. You can even facilitate a discussion on a subject that you are interested in! Seven (7) days filled with creating, sharing, hands-on learning and fun! Three meals a day cooked for you, plus camping. Fee: \$465-\$365 sliding scale. Indoor accommodation available for an extra fee. Contact: Ann at Riverspirit. To register: send \$100 non-refundable deposit to: Ann Lasater, Riverspirit, HCR 72 Box 85, Parthenon, AR 72666. Questions: haven@riverspirit.com or <http://www.riverspirit.com>, http://www.cpros.com/~sequoia_cobalot@pros.com

COURSES

July 6-25
Challenging Globalization: Alternative Models, Schumacher College, South West of England. With Vandana Shiva, Juliet Schor & Prasanna Parthasarathi. Each course is limited to 25 people to ensure the best possible learning experience. More information about the College and all courses is available on <http://www.schumachercollege.org.uk>. Includes application forms and details about bursaries to cover course fees.

exhibits as we explore business building strategies for companies serving 63 million values-based consumers in the rapidly growing \$230 billion Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability (LOHAS) marketplace. <http://www.LOHASjournal.com> or call 303-442-8983 to register and for more information.

June 19-22
International Symposium on Environmental Health: Molds, Mycotoxins and Chemical Sensitivity, Dallas, TX. Sponsored by the American Environmental Health Foundation. Contact: 214-361-9515. <http://www.aehf.com>

June 21-25
Solar 2003, Austin, TX. Sponsored by the American Solar Energy Society. Contact: 303-443-3130. <http://www.solarenergyforum.org>

August 7-10
Ecological Design: The Unstoppable Wave. Berkeley-Oakland, CA. A global interdisciplinary conference on the next great wave in architecture. ECO-WAVE 2003 program organizers: The San Francisco Institute of Architecture, Merritt College Environmental Studies Program, Academic Resources Foundation. SFA@aol.com. (Send one page of plain E-mail text, do not send attachments or pdf.)

September 28
WORLDFEST '03, Woodley Park, Van Nuys, CA. Mark your calendar now! Save the date! Live music all day, celeb appearances, cruelty-free food & products! Solar-powered! Bring friends! Contact: marr@madcowboy.com

October 15-18
EEBA 2003: Excellence in Building Conference, Chicago, IL. Sponsored by the Energy & Environmental Building Association. Contact: 952-881-1098. <http://www.eeba.org/conference>

October 21-22
Restoring Native Ecosystems, Nebraska City, NE. Sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Contact: 888-448-7337, <http://www.arborday.org/RNEco-conference>

November 12-14
USGBC Int'l Conference & Exposition, Pittsburg, PA. Sponsored by the U.G. Green Building Council with AIA-COTE, CSI, and ULI. Contact: 202-828-7422. <http://www.urgbc.org>

Institute of Social Ecology (ISE)

Plainville, VT. Tel: 802-454-8493

Three concentrations — On-site study

- Ecological Building
- Social Theory and Action
- Ecological Land Use

Spring 2003 offerings include a wide array of courses and facilitated study, noncredit workshops, and intensive practica.

<http://www.social-ecology.org/jump.php?id=149>

Summer Institute Programs

Sustainable Design, Building, & Land Use

Using the Institute for Social Ecology's 50-acre site as a laboratory, this program provides instruction in permaculture, organic agriculture, community design, ecological building, and forest ecology, while fostering a critical understanding of the social and political contexts in which these alternatives may be applied.

<http://www.social-ecology.org/jump.php?id=145>

Arts, Media, Activism, & Social Change

This fourteen-day program is intended for artists, activists, and media makers who wish to create and examine socially engaged art and media projects. Over the course of the program, students will receive hands-on experience and exposure to a wide array of activist art and media, including spoken word, culture jamming, puppetry, audio and video production, radio production, and web-based media and art.

<http://www.social-ecology.org/jump.php?id=146>

Ecology and Community

This program is intended as an intensive educational experience in the field of social ecology. This interdisciplinary, college-level program explores social ecology, nature philosophy, community development, political theory, social movements and activism, popular education, radical agriculture, capitalism and globalization, racism, feminism, and more.

<http://www.social-ecology.org/jump.php?id=147>

Theoretical Inquiries in the Age of Globalization

This eight-day intensive focuses on areas such as philosophy, social and political theory, and history as part of a scholarly inquiry into the "age of globalization." By theoretically exploring the past as well as the present, this continuing studies program hopes to deepen students' understanding of dynamic social phenomena such as capitalism, statecraft, racism, and the devastation of the natural world, to name a few. This intensive is intended both to rekindle students' desire for further study and offer intellectual inspiration for ongoing activist work.

<http://www.social-ecology.org/jump.php?id=148>

For further information on programs, contact the ISE by email at info@social-ecology.org, telephone 802-454-

8493, or visit our web site at <http://www.social-ecology.org/>.

IBE Building Biology Online Study Program. How Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) Interacts with Building Design.

First in a series of 15 Course packs tackling all aspects of sustainable building and design created by the International Institute for Baubiologie & Ecology, Inc. You can view a sample program at:

<http://baubiologie.us/learn/sample>

New upcoming Course Packs include:

- Electrical Home Wiring
- Indoor Climate

For further details call 727-461-4371

baubiologie@earthlink.net, <http://baubiologie.us>.

To register please go to

<http://baubiologie.us/secure/register.cfm>

PERMACULTURE EVENTS

South Coast Permaculture Guild and Santa Barbara Permaculture Network

224 E Figueroa St #C, Santa Barbara CA 93101.

lakinroe@silcom.com

Permaculture Discussion Group in Ojai

Monthly Meetings. Contact: Jodi Womack, 805-646-4450 x 2, Jodi@davidco.com and DorothyWallstein, 805-646-0752, dwallstein@uncommonconsulting.com.

March 21- December 13

Advanced Permaculture: Practical Skills for Bioregional Sustainability

Golden Bay, South Island, New Zealand. Three Modules:

- 21 March - 7 June: Design for Bioregional Self-Reliance
- 23 June - 13 September: Design for Organic Lifestyle Properties
- 3 October - 13 December: Design for Sustainable Human Settlement

Further Information and Prospectus: P.L.A.N.E.T. Organic, c/o Earthcare Education Aotearoa, PO Box 130, Takaka, Aotearoa/New Zealand. Phone/fax: (0064) 3-525-8334. planetorganic@excite.com, <http://www.planetorganic.org.nz>

March 20-30:

Art of Natural Building.

Book signings and slide shows with Joseph Kennedy of Builders without Borders to celebrate the release of the book *The Art of Natural Building*, <http://www.newsociety.com/bookid/3697>

Tentative Dates (more details as they are available):

- Mar 20, Berkeley (Builder's Booksources)
- Mar 21, Santa Cruz
- Mar 22, San Luis Obispo Public Library (downtown)
- Mar 25, Santa Barbara (7pm Faulkner Gallery)

Mar 26, Ojai (Ojai Retreat Center, 7pm, reservation required)

Mar 27, Ventura

Mar 28, Los Angeles

Mar 29, San Diego

Mar 30, Laguna Beach

Contact Santa Barbara Permaculture Network 805-962-2571, sbpcnet@silcom.com, <http://www.sbpermaculture.org>

Co-sponsored by Santa Barbara Permaculture Network, Hopedance Magazine and South Coast Permaculture Guild.

March 30 - April 6

Cob and Natural Building Workshop

Redding, CA. \$450 for 8 intensive days. Learn how to locate and test soil, sand, and straw, create the right cob mix for any situation, and build strong, durable, sculptural earthen walls. Get practical experience with windows, doors, arches and niches. Lectures cover siting, passive solar design, foundations, drainage, heating, plumbing and electric, natural roofing and flooring. Each day includes demonstrations and hands-on learning on a real building with discussions, slides and lectures. The Site: The 4 acre site features permaculture gardens, pond, strawbale home and guesthouse, peaceful scenery, and views of Mt. Lassen. \$450 includes tuition, materials, vegetarian meals, camping facilities Contact: Kupono Natural Builders, kuponobuilders@snowcrest.net, 530-275-3632, <http://www.snowcrest.net/nativeone/kuponobuilders>

March 29 thru April 4.

Basics of Cob Workshop with Ianto Evans

Santa Barbara. This "hands-on learning experience" will enable participants to learn how to construct with cob, a sustainable building material. It's going to be a great opportunity to learn from "the master who wrote the book" on cob. Pass this on to folks you know who want to build green. Cost: \$650 includes camping, vegetarian meals and intensive hands-on learning. Discounts for early registration & groups of two or more. 10% for payment in advance. 10% for families and friends coming together. To register contact: Cob Cottage Co, Box 123, Cottage Grove, OR 97424. Phone/fax: 541-942-2005, <http://www.deatech.com/cobcottage>

April 6 - 13 in Los Olivos

(See above for workshop description)

May 15 -July 15

Strawbale/Carpentry Course. Mayne Island, B.C., Canada. Instructors: Mo Cordes, Kit Maloney, Tracy Calvert. Accepting 5 participants, 4 placements remaining. This course will be finishing the beautiful post and beam home that was started in the spring of 2002. Participants will be finishing the exterior decks, framing all

interior walls, framing and creating the window assemblies and constructing the loft. We will install, secure and trim the strawbales that will make up the exterior walls. Included in the 2 month S/B course will be a 4 day Cob workshop (June 13th-16th) to construct an interior bench with a rocket stove and a stair case. This course will be extremely varied, offering the opportunity to learn different natural building techniques and to be immersed in the community.

<http://www.cobworks.com> Contact:

tracy@cobworks.com

May 27-30

The 8th Annual Constructed Wetlands Workshop,

Arcata, CA. For more information: <http://www.humboldt1.com/~water>
Humboldt Water Resources Engineering and Science, PO Box 165, Arcata, CA 95518. Telephone: 707-826-2869 Fax: 707-826-2165. water@humboldt1.com.

April 25 to May 10

Earth Activist Training and Permaculture Design Course.

Black Mountain Preserve in northern California (Sonoma County). With Penny Livingston and Starhawk <http://www.permacultureinstitute.com/eat/course.html>. Permaculture Institute of Northern California 415-663-9090. info@permacultureinstitute.com

June 17 - 22

Permaculture Camp & Skillshare

Skywater Center, Garberville, CA (See above for contact information for Permaculture Institute of Northern California)

July 5 -12

Strawbale Workshop. Taos, NM. Covering post and beam design, rubble trench, electric and plumbing, owner builder and contractor relationships, interior and exterior earth plasters & mud floors. This format will provide ample opportunity for folks starting personal projects to bring their own plans or for those just interested in getting some hands-on experience. Included: breakfast and lunch, on site camping, running water, shower and toilet facilities. Information contact: yelargrl@laplaza.org.

July 6-13

Build Here Now 2003. The Fifth Annual Natural Building & Permaculture Convergence. At the Lama Foundation, Taos County, New Mexico. Contact: Lama Foundation, 505-586-1269. <http://www.lamafoundation.org> or info@lamafoundation.org. Early registration for Build Here Now 2003 is advised.

July 13-26

Permaculture Design Intensive -Certificate Course, San Luis Obispo, CA. With Larry and Kathryn Santoyo

and Guest Instructors Contact: Larry Santoyo: 805-528-3763. info@earthflow.com, <http://www.earthflow.com>

July 19 -26

Passive Solar Strawbale Greenhouse Workshop, Taos, NM. Covering design and building, includes lectures on permaculture, gray water use, native & local plants & composting. This format will provide ample opportunity for folks starting personal projects to bring their own plans or for those just interested in getting some hands-on experience. Included: Breakfast and lunch, on site camping, running water, shower and toilet facilities. Contact: yelargrl@laplaza.org

August 9-10, August 16-17, August 30-31, September 6-7, September 20-21, September 27-28

Urban Permaculture Design Certificate Course. Co-sponsored by LA Eco-Village and CRSP, Los Angeles, CA. We are seeking sponsors and hosts to assist in conducting a Permaculture Design Certificate Course in Los Angeles County. In exchange for scholarships to the course, we are looking for marketing assistance and comfortable venues where we can conduct our weekend sessions and accommodate 30-40 people (just for the day). \$225 per weekend or \$1,200 for whole course. Pre-registration required. Contact: Larry Santoyo. 805-528.3763, info@earthflow.com, <http://www.earthflow.com>

August 23-31

Cob Cottage and Natural Building with Michael Smith, Santa Cruz Mountains. \$475 til March 31, \$550 thereafter. Permaculture Santa Cruz. 831-763-3848, per-masc@sasquatch.com

PERMACULTURE FILM SERIES

Sites Needed

I am embarking on an ambitious video series about sustainable communities and permaculture systems. I would be interested in hearing from anyone (particularly in Southern California — but I would be willing to travel to very special and unique projects elsewhere) who currently has a complete permaculture system, passive solar house, earth sheltered building, straw bale home, innovative water catchment systems, food forests, or any other system that demonstrates aspects of sustainable living. I am also seeking individuals who are planning any type of such systems and about to begin the design phase. Designers, teachers, and other experts in the above field are also needed to lend their expertise to the program. Participants would be expected to appear on camera to explain their system and take our small video crew on a tour of it and each one will get a finished copy of the video. Designers, teachers, and technical experts who are interested in participating in the development of this project are invited to also get in

touch and become involved. Those who lend a significant amount of time to the project will be granted licensing rights to the completed series, depending on their level of involvement. Please address all replies to Paul Racko: PERMACULTURE SERIES (in the Subject line), pracko@earthlink.net

The 7th Elfin Permaculture Design Course Online

This six-month course includes weekly sets of lectures sent by email, reading assignments, four reports from each student including a full permaculture design report and class discussion of all this work via email. Instructors include Dan Hemenway, Cynthia Hemenway, CNM, and Dr. Willem Smuts. For details, download (separately), the course protocol, the course reading list, and the course assignment schedule from <http://barkingfrogsperc.tripod.com/frames.html>

Internships Available at the Hope Farm

Oregon, "Food not Lawns" has leased some outbuildings and several acres of land on a local well-established organic farm here in the Willamette Valley. The land is also home to more than 800 fruit trees and a five acre filbert orchard, as well as chickens, ducks, cows, dogs, cats, some other farmers and a horse. Can accommodate two interns at a time (no dogs or kids), May through October. Internships will run from 4-16 weeks long and include camping space, some meals, individualized instruction and free admission to all of the workshops while you are here. No indoor sleeping space available. Internship Application Procedure: Apply via internet <http://www.hopefarm.net>, Heather Coburn: foodnotlawns@yahoo.com.

Volunteers and Ecovillagers needed in Bolivia

Here in Bolivia we have achieved enormous progress with the building of the ecocenter and the development of the ecovillage. 320 visitors in 2002 and almost a 100 volunteers have made it possible. We have room and board capacity for about 60 people at El Poncho today... no problem. We have also 6 plots of land of a little over an acre each (1/2 a hectare) for sale. The cost of the land, including water rights from a well we will dig, is \$20,000 US a plot. El Poncho Ecovillage is growing and beautiful people want to join. We are interested in people joining the courses and coming to be a part of El Poncho. Contact: Enrique Hidalgo. Phone: +591-4260974/264693, ipermacultura@hotmail.com. El Poncho Ecovillage, Marquina Correo Central Cochabamba, P.O.Box 3727, BOLIVIA. http://www.gai.org/services/Profile/The_Americas/South_America_Northern/Bolivia/detail_1215.asp

Summer 2003 Residency

Living Earth Culture Village is accepting applications for 15 positions for women who have experience in art, environmentalism and/or community development for a

unique 4 month summer intensive experience in alternative architecture, sustainable living, archeology, craft, language, song and ritual. Duration of residency is flexible, Ten (10) 4-month subsidized positions are available. A full residency syllabus is posted at the St. Norbert Arts Centre, Winnipeg, Canada, website: <http://www.snac.mb.ca>. Contact: Louise May at lmay@snac.mb.ca or tel: 204-261-6279, fax: 204)261-1927 for more information.

URBAN SUSTAINABILITY EVENTS

Sponsored by the Los Angeles Eco-Village and the Cooperative Resources and Services Project (CRSP)

Saturdays, March 15, April 5 and April 26

L.A. Eco-Village Tours: 11 am - 1 pm. Meet at 117 Bimini Place, LA 90004 at 11 am. \$10 donation (sliding scale) Reservations required: Contact: Lois Arkin 213-738-1254 or crsp@igc.org

Friday, March 28, 7:30 pm

The Art of Natural Building, L.A. Eco-Village. Slide show talk with Joseph Kennedy of Builders Without Borders. \$10 donation (sliding scale). Contact: Lois Arkin, 213-738-1254, crsp@igc.org

Saturday, May 3, 9 am - 5 pm

Solar Installer Training Class, L.A. Eco-Village. Sponsored by the Solar Living Center. \$100 with some half price scholarships of \$50 available to those associated with affordable housing projects. Registration: the Solar Living Institute at 707-744-2017 or email to sli@solarliving.org. Must pre-register.

August 9-10, August 16-17, August 30-31, September 6-7, September 20-21, September 27-28

Urban Permaculture Design Certificate Course with Larry Santoyo, Bill Roley, Toby Hemingway and others. Los Angeles, CA. Sponsored by the LA Eco-Village and CRSP. We are seeking co-sponsors and hosts to assist in conducting this course in Los Angeles County. In exchange for scholarships to the course, we are looking for marketing assistance and comfortable venues where we can conduct our weekend sessions and accommodate 30-40 people (just for the day). \$225 per weekend or \$1,200 for whole course. Pre-registration required. Contact: Larry Santoyo, 805-528.3763 info@earthflow.com, <http://www.earthflow.com>

DESIGN COMPETITION FOR LICENSED ARCHITECTS

Innovations in Community Design and Housing Competition.

Sponsor: Livable Places.
Type: open, two stage.

Registration Deadline: March 28, 2003.
Submission Deadline: RFQ submitted, March 28, 2003 (stage one).
Final submission July 22, 2003.
Open to: Licensed Architects, U.S. Entry Fee: \$50.00. Awards: Commission, and \$10,000 stipend to each finalist.
Jury: Angela Brooks, Pres. Livable Places; Charles Brown, City of Long Beach; Neil Denari, Architect; Anita Berrizbeitia, Landscape Architect; James Grauley, Bank of America; Mark Mack, Architect; Roger Sherman, Architect. Competition Advisor: Richard Weinstein, Professor, Dean Graduate School of Architecture and Urban Planning, UCLA, 1985-1994.

Mixed-Use Sustainable Affordable Housing. Under the National Endowment for the Arts New Public Works Grant Program, Livable Places, Inc., invites licensed architects to compete in a design competition for a mixed-use, sustainable, affordable housing and urban design project. Livable Places, Inc. has been established by a group of affordable housing advocates and environmentalists to promote a more livable and sustainable Los Angeles region. Livable Places's mission is to provide more livable and sustainable affordable housing on problematic urban sites and to influence and change the vision of urban policy makers and voters. The competition calls for the urban design of approximately ten acres and the design and planning of Phase I. This will include approximately 50 units of for sale affordable sustainable housing, mixed-use commercial/retail and other site amenities. Most of the site is already under the control of Livable Places. The stage one open-call portion of the competition is open to licensed architects and architectural firms in the U.S.A Competition Committee composed of members of the Jury and Livable Places will select up to five architects who will be notified on April 28, 2003 that they have been chosen to compete in stage 2. Each of the selected finalists will be given an honorarium of \$10,000 plus a travel stipend to prepare an Urban Design site plan for the 10 acres, and schematic plans, a perspective, and elevation of the proposed 50 units. One winner will be selected by July 28, 2003 to negotiate an agreement with Livable Places for full architectural services for Phase 1. Other finalists may be considered for other projects.

A show of the finalist's proposals will be held at the Los Angeles Museum of Architecture and Design. Stage one application forms are now available. For more information or to register visit the Livable Places Website at: <http://www.livableplaces.org> or contact cbowin@livableplaces.org

SANTA MONICA SHOWING THE WAY

"Conserve Today, Preserve Tomorrow — Santa Monica, a Sustainable Community." The Eco-Home™ Network has been proud to have the City of Santa Monica as a co-sponsor and partner in our annual Homes for the Future Tour. Several city-initiated sites demonstrating innovative applications of alternative energy and energy efficiency, stormwater retention and other "green" design elements have been outstanding features on the Tour since 2001. Thanks to the progressive thinking of Santa Monica's residents and the farsightedness of their elected officials and their Task Force on the Environment, the city's involvement in the area of urban sustainability goes back quite a bit further:

In 1994 the City of Santa Monica took a leadership position in the world wide sustainability movement when the City Council approved their first Sustainable City Plan. The original program focused primarily on environmental issues. Since its adoption the Plan has helped the City add parks and trees, increase the number of affordable housing units, improve neighborhood quality and safety, cut energy costs while reducing air pollutants, and dramatically reduce the amount of pollution entering Santa Monica Bay. Yet, the program is easy to understand, targeted,

measurable, and has saved the city money, produced multiple benefits for the community while reducing its burden on the environment.

As successful as the original Sustainable City Plan has been, the City Council determined that it was time to expand the scope of the Plan to include housing, edu-

cation, civic participation, and human dignity. Adopted early in 2003, the revised Sustainable City Plan sets long-term policy goals to harness the power of local government, business and individuals to address many of the economic, environmental, and societal problems cities face around the world.

The newly updated and expanded Sustainable City Plan includes new community goals for the next decade in the following areas:

- Resource Management
- Environmental & Public Health
- Transportation
- Economic Development
- Open Space & Land Use
- Housing
- Community Education & Civic Participation
- Human Dignity

Some of the specific accomplishments of the 1994 Sustainable City Plan include:



Statement by the Santa Monica City Council:

The City of Santa Monica recognizes that we live in a period of great environmental crisis. As a community, we need to create the basis for a more sustainable way of life both locally and globally through the safeguarding and enhancing of our resources and by preventing harm to the natural environment and human health. We are resolved that our impact on the natural environment must not jeopardize the prospects of future generations.

- In 1999 Santa Monica became the first city in the US to power all of its facilities with renewable electricity, prompting several other cities to follow suit.
- The City's groundbreaking environmental purchasing and toxics reduction policies are being replicated throughout the US and as far away as Europe, Japan and the Philippines.
- The recently completed Santa Monica Urban Runoff Recycling Facility (SMURRF) — the first of its kind in the world — reclaims dry-weather flows from the Pico-Kenter and Santa Monica Pier storm drains for local landscape irrigation. This project not only improves water quality in the Santa Monica Bay, but reduces the

amount of irrigation water purchased by the City, resulting in a savings of both financial and environmental resources.

Dean Kubani, Santa Monica's Sustainable Program Coordinator, expresses the city's down-to-earth approach to creating a livable future when he says. "Sustainability doesn't mean making do with less. On the contrary, sustainability means using our resources — natural, human and social — in better and more efficient ways to maximize the benefits of all that we do."

For more information on the environmentally responsible policies and programs of the City of Santa Monica, go to www.santa-monica.org/environment/ or call Dean at 310-458-2227 or email at dean-kubani@santa-monica.org.

PRODUCT NEWS

Certified Pine At Anawalt

The Collins Companies, sellers of sustainably harvested lumber, announced that Anawalt Lumber is stocking their FSC certified pine in at least one location. They aim to stock it in others by the end of the year. It is a good idea to call them to confirm. Anawalt's website is: <http://anawallumber.com>. The Collins Companies may be contacted at (800) 329-1219 or <http://www.CollinsWood.com>

Athena™ Environmental Impact Estimator (EIE)

The Athena Sustainable Materials Institute has launched its groundbreaking software: a systems model for assessing the life-cycle environmental implications of building or assembly designs. The Estimator gives architects, engineers and researchers life-cycle assessment (LCA) answers about conceptual designs of new

buildings or renovations to existing buildings, including industrial, institutional, office, and both multi-unit and single family residential designs.

The Estimator incorporates the Institute's internationally recognized life cycle inventory databases, covering more than 90 structural and envelope materials. It simulates over 1,000 different assembly combinations and can model 95% of the building stock in North America. The software is easy to use, allowing users to track entries, view detailed results and make comparisons.

To make the Athena™ Estimator as transparent as possible, the Institute offers a companion CD containing all supporting database reports in pdf format. To order visit <http://www.athenaSMI.ca> and go through the animated tutorial.

ACTION ALERT

Old Glory Needs Us More Than Ever!

Last November, Southern California was inspired by the gentle bravery of John Quigley in his ascendance into the venerable branches of a 400-year-old Pico Canyon oak tree that was threatened with destruction to make way for a road expansion. The road expansion is intended to accommodate new development near Santa Clarita, CA.

For over 10 weeks, thanks to the rallying of many organizations and people, the tree was surrounded by supporters who named the tree "Old Glory" and poured out their love and encouragement to John as he kept his lofty vigil. Simultaneously people attended LA County Supervisors' meetings to urge the Supervisors to alter the road plan to go around the tree.

Arguing that Quigley was trespassing, developer John Laing Homes obtained a temporary restraining order to remove



the activist from the tree, and on January 11th, John was physically forced to descend from Old Glory by Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies and firefighters using an aerial ladder and chain-



breaking tools.

County Supervisor Michael Antonovich wants the developer to move the tree, which is highly likely to kill it, according to many experts. The decision whether or not to keep the tree in place rests solely with the LA. County Public Works Dept., under the direction of Supervisor Antonovich.

ACTION:

Pleas from the public continue and need to continue to pour into the Supervisors' office on behalf of preserving the ancient tree in its present site.

On Monday, February 24th, the Senna Tree Service, under the supervision of Lee Newman and Associates, began excavation on two sides of the tree using two backhoe machines, digging six foot deep trenches. This was happening while tree advocates were meeting with the County about how to reroute the road, and stop any work on the tree through a challenge to their permits!

1. Please write to Lee Newman, Senna Tree Service and all LA. County Supervisors, using the addresses below, or go to <http://www.escv.com/letter.htm> and click to send the letter, or better yet, adapt it to express your feelings.
2. Speak at the next LA. County Board of Supervisors Meeting on Tuesdays at 9:30AM at 500 West Temple Street. (For those who haven't spoken in the last 90 days.) Arrive by 10:30 am and sign the form. You also can deliver written testimony (which should be copied six times.)
3. Make a tax-deductible contribution of any amount to support legal fees and other expenses of trying to save Old Glory, payable to Santa Clarita Oak Conservancy, PO Box 800520, Santa

Clarita, CA 91380-0520 (designate for Old Glory).

For more information call Jim Stewart at 310-390-4366. Jim has kept the entire environmental community informed and activated on this attack on an irreplaceable and supposedly "protected" natural treasure via e-mail since the beginning. He has been our electronic Paul Revere! It is largely through his continual outreach to us all that Old Glory is still intact. We can help him keep on keeping on by taking these actions.

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Lee Newman and Senna Tree Service,

We are shocked that you have started to cut the roots of Old Glory during its peak growing season. We have observed the use of heavy machinery to cut its roots without a supervising arborist on site.

There is worldwide scrutiny on your actions. Old Glory is a prized asset of LA County cherished by thousands of people.

Please stop your work immediately as it is threatening the life of the tree. We are surprised you would be taking these risky steps now, while local residents are pursuing alternative road plans that would allow Old Glory to stay in place.

Sincerely,

cc: LA. County Supervisors
cc: John Laing Homes
cc: Tom Barron

Lee Newman & Associates
31300 Via Colinas, Suite 104
Westlake Village, CA 91362-3992
818-991-5056, Fax: 818-991-3478
Email: LNDG@LNDG.net
Lawrence Webb, CEO

John Laing Homes
895 Dove Street
Newport Beach, CA
Tel 949-265-2400
Fax: 949-265-2500
E-mail: LWebb@JohnLaingHomes.com

Mr. John Mote
Senna Tree Service
3115 Foothill Blvd., Suite M #140
La Crescenta, CA 91214
Tel: 818-957-5755
Fax: 818-957-5255
Email: sennatreeco@attbi.com

Here are the names of principal contacts at the Supervisor's offices.

1st district:
Gloria Molina: molina@bos.co.la.ca.us
213-974-4111
Carrie Sutkin, Field Supervisor, Fax:
213-613-1739, molina@bos.co.la.ca.us

2nd district:
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke:
Seconddistrict@bos.co.la.ca.us
213-974-2222
Mike Bohlke, Assistant Chief of Staff,
Fax: 213-680-3283

3rd district:
Zev Yaroslavsky: zev@bos.co.la.ca.us -
Tel.: 213-974-3333 -

Laura Shell, Deputy for Land use, Fax:
213-625-7360, zev@bos.co.la.ca.us

5th district:
Don Knabe: don@bos.co.la.ca.us - Tel:
213-974-4444

Curt Peterson, Sr. Deputy Public Works,
Fax: 213-626-6941

Mike Antonovich:
fifthdistrict@bos.co.la.ca.us
213-974-5555

Conal McNamara, Land-Use Deputy,
Fax: 213-974-1010,
fifthdistrict@bos.co.la.ca.us

Directions to Supervisors' Office:: Take the Temple St. Exit from 101 (1st exit east of 110), turn left. County Building on your right. Park across the street at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels.

Transit Directions: Better yet, show your support for our environment by taking the bus or train. The Red Line trains run every 5 minutes during rush hours. Exit at Civic Center stop, walk north on Hill St., turn left at Temple.

Bus stops are very close. For bus schedules go to <http://www.mta.net/> and click on Metro Trip Planner.or call 1-800-266-6883.

OLD GLORY VIGIL EVERY SUNDAY.

Please join us every Sunday from 5-6 pm for a community vigil to honor and commune with "Old Glory", the 400-year old oak tree still standing in Pico Canyon. We meet on the corner of Whispering Oaks Road and Pico Canyon. The section of Pico Canyon Road that passes "Old Glory" is closed off, but the detour will direct you through a housing development and lead directly to the corner of Whispering Oaks Road and Pico Canyon.

For more information, please contact Gabrielle at Its2carey@aol.com

Directions to Old Glory: If you want to visit Old Glory and keep an eye on its safety and well-being, take I-5 north to McBean Parkway /Stevenson Ranch Parkway exit. Turn left over the freeway. McBean becomes Stevenson Ranch Parkway on the west side of I-5. Continue on Stevenson Ranch Parkway west until it dead-ends at a stop sign at Pico Canyon Road. Turn right and continue on Pico Canyon Road to Whispering Oaks Avenue. Park and walk to the tree.

Some information in this article was obtained from a news story by Massie Ritsch and Richard Fausset appearing on Jan. 11, 2003, in The Los Angeles Times; LA, CA.

AQUARIUS TODAY

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, water is more valuable to life than gold. Let us here celebrate the water bearers who bring this gift to our land.

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) is a consortium of 26 cities and water districts that provides an average of 1.7 billion gallons of drinking water per day to nearly 17 million people in a 5,200-square mile service area which includes parts of Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino and Ventura counties.

In 2002 hot temperatures and little rain caused drought conditions in nearly half of the 48 contiguous states. Many parts of the Southland, including San Diego and Los Angeles, endured the driest rainfall season in more than 100 years. Since 1992, Metropolitan and its member agencies have invested more than \$252 million in aggressive conservation and other programs to offset seasonal rainfall variability. Metropolitan's contribution alone has been \$171 million.

Innovative Conservation Program

Metropolitan, in cooperation with its 26 member public agencies, is offering grants to explore the water savings potential and practicality of new water conserving technologies. Special consideration will be given to projects promoting water-saving landscape products or technologies. The goals of the pro-



gram are to increase water conservation technology options for commercial and residential customers as well as enhance existing data and/or create new data on innovative conservation technologies.

Water Reliability Initiative

For more than six decades, Metropolitan has relied on the Colorado River Aqueduct. As the region's population has increased, so have the challenges of ensuring supply reliability. In response to those challenges, Metropolitan has launched several initiatives to ensure infrastructure reliability.

Water Recycling

By the 1920s, local water agencies realized the value of recycled water as a source of supply. This vision most recently led to the development of approximately 201,000 acre-feet of recy-



The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

pled water in fiscal year 2002.

For more than 20 years, Metropolitan has invested in Southland water recycling projects, committing about \$95 million to date. Metropolitan's newest program was established in 1998 and includes a twist—a competitive element. Member agencies have to compete for funds, and projects are evaluated against a list of criteria.

Groundwater Recovery

Over the past 11 years, Metropolitan has invested about \$26 million to help fund member agency groundwater recovery projects. Funding agreements exist for 22 projects, 15 of which are in operation and credited with recovering about 32,000 acre-feet of water in fiscal year 2002. Metropolitan's fiscal year contribution was \$6 million. In addition, local water agencies produced another 18,000 acre-feet of recovered groundwater without financial assistance from Metropolitan, bringing the regional total to 50,000 acre-feet for the year.

Seawater Desalination Program

In August 2001, Metropolitan initiated the Seawater Desalination Program to support the development of cost-effective seawater desalination projects that will contribute to greater water supply reliability. In November 2001, MWD issued a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) soliciting seawater desalination project proposals sponsored by member agencies. The RFP targeted projects that would contribute up to 50,000 acre-feet per year and be eligible for financial incentives of up to \$250 per acre foot of production. Detailed pro-

posals were received from the LA Department of Water and Power, Long Beach Water Department, Municipal Water District of Orange County, San Diego County Water Authority and West Basin Municipal Water District. Collectively these proposals could produce about 126,000 acre feet of drinking water per year. In response, Metropolitan's board is considering increasing the total target number of desalinated acre-feet in the current Integrated Resources Plan Update to 150,000.

For more information on the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and its programs go to the website at <http://www.mwdh2o.com> or call 213-217-6485.

COMMUNITY PARTNERING PROGRAM (CPP)

Metropolitan's CPP is a multi-faceted funding program encompassing sponsorships, memberships and selected activities for community based, nonprofit organizations and professional associations. Programs funded by CPP focus community participation around regional water policy issues and encourage discussion of water quality, water conservation and water reliability with key constituency groups. Eco-Home™ Network has been honored to be a Community Partner through our annual Homes for the Future Tour which has been co-sponsored by Metropolitan every year since 1998.

RECYCLING NEWS

Empty Cartridge Recycling

Redemption: \$5 per empty toner cartridge,
\$2.50 per empty ink cartridge

Print your FREE USPS/FedEx shipping label online!

Visit: <http://www.recycle-4-dollars.com>
OR call Catherine Duanes or Jay Liffs, 67

Productivity Systems, Inc. at 800-303-2620 with questions.

E-Waste

Call 800-988-6942 for information on monthly drop-off sites for all electronic waste, including computers, TVs, electronic toys, cell phones and more.

Thanks to E-HN member Saran Kirschbaum for this information.

VEGGIE SCHOOL LUNCH

Assemblyman Joe Nation of Marin County has introduced Assembly Concurrent Resolution 16 calling for schools to offer a daily plant-based vegetarian alternative on the daily lunch menu. This could be the beginning of something wonderful!

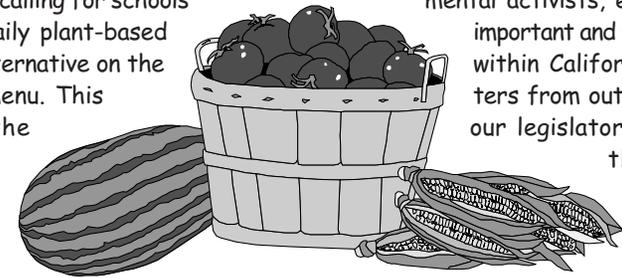
Letters/calls of support are needed more than ever! Support letters can be sent to Author, Assemblyman Joe Nation, at Joe.Nation@asm.ca.gov or faxed to 916-319-2106 or call 916-319-2006 for more information.

ACR 16 is about to go into a hearing by the education committee. The numbers of letters of support will be presented to the committee and can influence the ed committee to pass the resolution to go to the floor to be voted on by the legislature. Once passed by committee, the legislature is very likely to also pass it. You can link to your particular legislator directly at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov> (you just enter your zip).

Letters from parents, kids, organization leaders, health advocates, environmental activists, etc. are very important and not just from within California, but letters from out of state let our legislators know that the eyes of the nation are upon them.

For more information and to review the resolution in its entirety visit <http://www.soyhappy.org/schoolrez.htm> THANK YOU for your help helping kids, the animals, and their planet.

Barbara Gates
Susan Wieland
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FARM CHOICE Program
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<http://www.choiceusa.net>
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1-877-6CHOICE
916 319-2006



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A PRIMER ON SUSTAINABLE BUILDING, by Barnett and Browning, Rocky Mtn. Institute, 1999, \$19.82

ACHIEVING ECO-NOMIC SECURITY ON SPACESHIP EARTH, by Jim Bell, 1994, \$17.54

ALL ABOUT LANDSCAPING, Ortho Books, 1988, \$11.72

BACKYARD COMPOSTING, by John Roulac, \$8.27

BUILDING PROFESSIONAL'S GREY-WATER GUIDE: The Guide to Professional Installation of Greywater Systems, by Art Ludwig, 1995, \$14.67

CHOOSE TO REUSE, An Encyclopedia of Services, Products, Programs & Charitable Organizations That Foster Reuse, by Nikki and David Goldbeck, 1995, \$18.54

EARTH USER'S GUIDE TO PERMACULTURE, by Rosemary Morrow, 1999, \$16.02

ECO-RENOVATION: The Ecological Home Improvement Guide, by Edward Hartland, 1994, \$19.00

GAIA: A NEW LOOK AT LIFE ON EARTH, by James Lovelock, 2000, \$18.06

GAIA'S GARDEN, A Guide to Home-Scale Permaculture, by Toby Hemeway, 2001, \$27.53

GAVIOTAS: A Village to Reinvent the World, by Alan Weisman, 1995, \$25.60, hardcover

SALE!

GUIDE TO RESOURCE EFFICIENT BUILDING ELEMENTS, 4th Edition, Center for Resourceful Building Technology, 1994, \$10.00

HEALTHFUL HOUSES, How to Design and Build Your Own, by Clint Good, \$13.14

HEALTHY HOUSE BUILDING FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM: A Design and Construction Guide, by John Bower, 2001, \$24.38

HOW TO GROW MORE VEGETABLES than you ever thought possible on less land than you can imagine, by John Jeavons, 1991, \$16.57

HUMANURE HANDBOOK, A Guide to Composting Human Manure, by Joseph Jenkins, 1999, \$21.80.

LOS ANGELES: History of the Future, by Paul Glover, 1989, \$5.00

NATURAL PEST CONTROL: Alternatives to Chemicals for the Home & Garden, Revised Edition, by Andrew Lopez, 1994, \$20.44

PERELANDRA GARDEN WORKBOOK, 2nd Edition, by M. Wright, 1993, \$22.44

REGENERATIVE DESIGN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, by John Tillman Lyle, 1994, \$37.10

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STATE OF THE WORLD, 1995, Worldwatch Institute Report on Progress Toward a Sustainable Society, \$8.00

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THE ECOLOGY OF COMMERCE, A Declaration of Sustainability, by Paul Hawken, 1993, \$17.00

THE FUEL SAVERS, Solar Ideas for Your Home, Edited by Bruce N. Anderson, \$6.32

THE HAND-SCULPTED HOUSE: A Practical & Philosophical Guide to Building a Cob Cottage, by Ianto Evans, Michael Smith & Linda Smiley, Chelsea Green, 2002, \$38.02

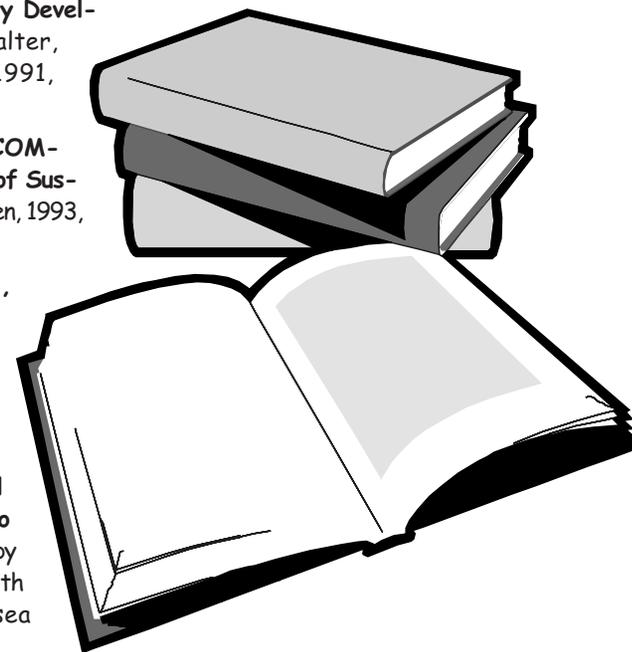
THE NEXT AMERICAN METROPOLIS, Ecology, Community, and the American Dream, by Peter Calthorpe, 1993, \$25.81

THE PASSIVE SOLAR HOUSE BOOK, Using Solar Design to Heat and Cool Your House, by James Kachadorian, 1997, \$27.52

THE SMART KITCHEN: How to Design a Comfortable, Safe, Energy Efficient & Environment-Friendly Work Space, by David Goldbeck, 1994, \$17.

TREEHOUSES: The House that Jack Built, by David Pearson, 2001, \$19.82

Prices quoted include the 10% members' discount plus tax, shipping and handling. To order send a check to the Eco-Home™ Network in the amount indicated above.



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