

Color your community green.

The environment is at the top of the agenda around the world, and local home builders are moving forward with solutions for more energy- and resource-efficient homes—at affordable prices.

Early next year, the National Association of Home Builders will release its National Green Building Program. It's voluntary, market-driven and flexible. Make it the greenprint for your community.

Learn more at www.nahb.org/greenbuildingprogram.

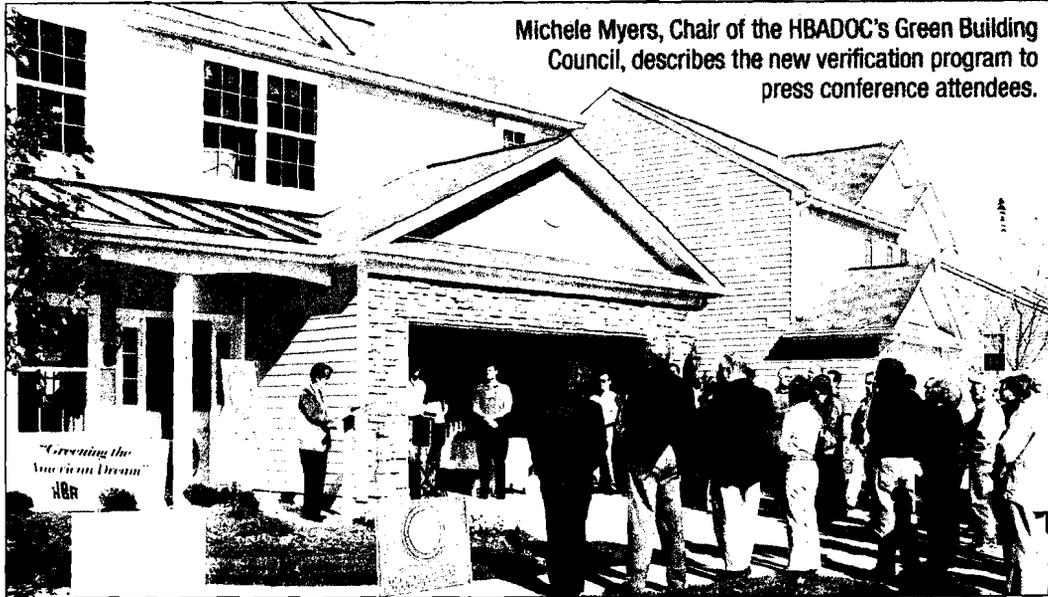


BUILDING BETTER BY BUILDING GREEN



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL
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EXHIBIT 19

We're bringing 'green' to the mainstream



Michele Myers, Chair of the HBADOC's Green Building Council, describes the new verification program to press conference attendees.

A new green building program that's recently been launched in our area brings great news to all of the people who want a 'green' home — but without a rustic style, sod roof, or other non-traditional features that have typically been associated with green building. The Home Builders Association of Durham, Orange, and Chatham Counties (HBADOC) unveiled a program on November 2 that's intended to "bring green to the mainstream."

More than 80 people, including a number of local elected officials, gathered to learn about the program at a press conference that was held on a crisp autumn day at Cimarron's Glennstone development in Durham County. The houses that were featured in the press conference are traditional, moderately-priced subdivision homes with plenty of curb appeal. Yet these houses, built to conform to a set of green building standards adopted by the HBADOC's Green Building Council, will have increased energy efficiency, better indoor air quality, and other special features that are not apparent at first glance.

"By building mainstream homes according to the Green Building Guidelines, the cumulative impact will be significant," commented Michele Myers, Chair of the HBADOC's Green

Building Council. "We are hoping to involve as many builders in the program as possible, and we are eager to provide any interested builders — and also prospective homeowners — with helpful information on green building practices and products," she added.

Because of the fact that many of these special, green-building features will not be immediately obvious in a finished home, the program includes a verification process that provides reassurance to potential buyers. The verification process requires various types of documentation and tests that will prove the standards have been met. One of these tests, designed to confirm the energy efficiency of a home, was demonstrated at the press conference.

While quite a few homes in the area have recently been built according to the HBADOC's Green Building Guidelines, one of the homes that was featured in the press conference is the first house to be officially enrolled in the verification program. "We are very excited about the launch of our verification program, and we hope that this first application will be followed by many more," stated Nick Tennyson, Executive Vice-President of the HBADOC. "We will look forward to showcasing the verified homes in our second annual spring Green Home Tour, scheduled for May of 2007," he continued.

Green building on a budget

Many people are interested in adding green features when they build or remodel a home, but they are worried about the expense. Yet it doesn't have to be cost prohibitive, as demonstrated by our local Habitat for Humanity affiliates. They're clearly showing that it's possible to go green on a budget.

In Durham, the Habitat affiliate recently received green building certification for a Morehead Avenue home under the Green Building Initiative (GBI) program operated by the Home Builders Association of Durham, Orange, and Chatham Counties (HBADOC). The GBI certification process requires a home to achieve performance goals in six different areas: lot design, preparation and development; resource efficiency; energy efficiency; water efficiency; indoor environmental quality; and operation, maintenance, and homeowner education.

For more than a decade, Habitat for Humanity of Durham has been committed to energy-efficient construction. Through a partnership with Raleigh-based Advanced Energy, Habitat guarantees that its home buyers' heating and cooling bills will be no more than \$30 per month. However, since the GBI program requires a home to achieve goals in many other areas in addition to energy efficiency, Habitat has significantly expanded its commitment to sustainable construction practices.

Furthermore, Habitat of Durham recently started construction of a 32-home development, Hope Crossing, in east Durham. Every home will be built to the GBI standards, and the entire community will be built as a green community, the first for any Habitat affiliate in North Carolina. The special features of the Hope Crossing neighborhood will include:



Miguel Rubiera of Durham Habitat is proud to accept the GBI certificate for the Morehead Avenue home.

street trees and native plantings; a nature trail; use of best practices for innovative storm water management; plans that connect bicycle and pedestrian thoroughfares to surrounding destinations; and environmental education and participation of Hope Crossing residents.

In Chatham County, the Habitat affiliate is in the process of constructing a home that's built to the winning design in last year's national Sustainable Design competition. The design was developed by a team of NCSU students, guided by NCSU professor Tom Barrie and Durham builder Randy Lanou. The home includes many green features, including passive solar design, low-VOC paints, water conservation features, and a rain screen on exterior walls. As this house was one of the entries on the HBADOC's recent Green Home Tour, Triangle-area residents had the chance to examine these special features up close.

According to Durham Habitat's Executive Director Miguel Rubiera, "Habitat offers a life-changing opportunity to all home buyers. Green building is yet another way to help improve the quality of life of families and the entire community."

**YOUR LOCAL HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION IS HERE TO SERVE YOU. PLEASE CALL
OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR MEMBERS.**

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Come and See what it Means to be Green!

With a 50% increase in entries, longer hours, and a kickoff event to add to the excitement, the Second Annual Green Home Tour on May 19 and 20 should be a fantastic event. The tour is being planned and presented by the Green Building Council of the Home Builders Association of Durham, Orange and Chatham Counties.

"We're thrilled to have 19 homes on the tour this year," commented Randy Moore, tour chairperson. "The entries represent a wide range in both price and green features, so we think that there will be plenty of variety for everyone to see. With the inclusion of a Habitat home and several entry-level homes constructed by production builders, we believe that the tour will help spread the word that we're bringing green to the mainstream," he added.

Green features in each of the homes will be summarized in bullet points that will be contained in the tour book. Here's a small sampling of special features that are included in some of the homes on the tour:

- Sealed crawl space and attic
- High-efficiency HVAC system with fresh air intake
- Spray foam insulation
- Energy Star® appliances & lights with LED or compact fluorescent bulbs
- Low- or no-VOC paints, caulks, and adhesives for good indoor air quality
- Low-flow plumbing fixtures
- Solar water heaters linked to radiant-floor heating
- Low-E windows
- Low-maintenance landscaping that features rainwater collection & drought-resistant plants
- Compressed wheat doors
- Bamboo stair treads & countertops
- Radiant barrier roof sheathing
- Tankless high-efficiency gas water heater
- Recycled news print insulation for interior walls
- Reuse of demolished materials to help conserve resources
- Locally milled pine floors
- Passive solar orientation with 2-ft overhangs
- Returns or transfer ducts in all bedrooms for maximum comfort/efficiency
- Advanced framing techniques
- Rain screen on exterior walls



"Greening The American Dream"

Some of the homes on this year's tour will be partially finished, enabling visitors to see various green features (such as advanced framing techniques and spray foam insulation) that would be hidden behind the walls of a home that's been completed.

Mark your calendar and make plans to attend the tour!