



Green Lingo: *Cradle to Cradle*

A design philosophy put forth by architect William McDonough in his book "Cradle-to-Cradle" that considers the life cycle of a material or product. Cradle-to-Cradle design models human industry on nature's processes, in which materials are viewed as nutrients circulating in healthy life cycles and create goods and services that generate ecological, social and economic value.

In addition to describing the hopeful, nature-inspired design principles that are making industry both prosperous and sustainable, the book itself is a physical symbol of the changes to come. It is printed on a synthetic 'paper,' made from plastic resins and inorganic fillers, designed to look and feel like top quality paper while also being waterproof and rugged. This 'treeless' book points the way toward the day when synthetic books, like many other products, can be used, recycled, and used again without losing any material quality—in cradle to cradle cycles.

To learn more about Cradle-to-Cradle philosophy, the book can be found in many book retailers and online making for a good gift for the holidays.

Green Product of the Month: *LED Lighting*

Light emitting diode (LED) lighting has quickly become the industry standard in sustainable lighting in the residential and commercial building sectors. Up to 50% of a typical building's energy consumption is attributed to lighting, as conventional incandescent lights convert only 20% of electrical energy to light. The remaining 80% of this electrical energy is wasted and converted to heat. LED lights are far more efficient, converting up to 80% of electrical energy to light with little heat given off. They have a long life expectancy when compared to incandescent and fluorescent lighting, and their high durability make them popular for industrial applications as well. They also do not contain toxic materials such as mercury found in fluorescent lighting.

This holiday season; consider using LED string lights instead of conventional string lights to decorate your home.

<http://www.holidayleds.com/>



Green at PARE:

PARE attends 2010 Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association *Sustainable New England Conference*

PARE attended the Sustainable New England Conference held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire October 7-8th, 2010. The conference program included Track Sessions with topics ranging from Environment and Climate Change, Integrating Land Use/Natural Resources/Transportation Planning, Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Agriculture and the Local Sustainable Economy, and Integrating Natural Resources for Sustainable Planning, as well as Mobile Workshops to experience sustainable practices at work throughout Portsmouth, NH.

Of particular note was the Plenary Session at the opening of the two-day conference, *Sustainability Initiatives – Regional, State and Local Perspectives*. Curt Spaulding, Deputy Regional Administrator, U.S. EPA Region 1 discussed three initiatives where they believe that they have the opportunity to significantly improve the way EPA Region 1 New England implements their programs – Climate Change, Protecting America's Waters, and Clean Up of New England Communities.

Thomas Burack, NH Commissioner of Environmental Services followed with a discussion of holistic planning and management in the context of the NH Climate Action Plan (March 2009). The Plan focuses on the increased demands on our natural resources in the midst of an ever-changing climate, creating new challenges that have environmental, social, and economic impacts and implications to the environmental health of human and ecological communities.

Peter Britz, Environmental Planner/Sustainability Coordinator City of Portsmouth concluded the session with recent City accomplishments that further the goals of sustainability including LEED buildings, greenhouse gas inventory work, infrastructure improvements and ongoing community collaboration. --Craig Pereira

Green Current Events: *Featuring a Local Green Company: Greenvans Located in Boston*

"Founders Andy Reitz and Anthony Rovedo formed Greenvans in the spring of 2008 in response to the need for green travel in the music industry. After months of research into the technology behind (Waste Vegetable Oil) WVO fuel systems, Andy bought and converted a diesel van in 2007 . . . and successfully completed a two-month US tour burning recycled vegetable oil for fuel. In his travels, Andy discovered there was a community around the country willing to help others traveling on WVO. He collaborated with the WVO community to form a nationwide network of fuel suppliers who collect, filter, and sell WVO to bands touring with Greenvans." (www.rentgreenvans.com)

The rental vans come with 150 gallon fuel tank that will allow the vehicle to travel 2,000 miles on vegetable oil. The van runs on diesel the first 5-10 minutes and then switches over to the WVO. Once the key is removed, the engine will continue to run for about a minute to remove the oil from the engine. Other than that it can be driven like a normal van. The added benefit is WVO is about one dollar cheaper per gallon than regular diesel fuel. Going green really can be cheaper.



Green at PARE Continued:

PARE attends 2010 Green Build Conference

On Wednesday, November 17th, over 28,000 people entered the McCormick Place West in Chicago to hear General Colin L. Powell (Ret.) address the conference attendees at the Opening Plenary. General Powell was joined by many other reputable speakers throughout the convention including Chicago's Mayor, Richard M. Daley. Greenbuild had impressive speakers, the option to choose from over 100 educational sessions, and the opportunity to visit over 1,000 different exhibit booths which advertised green products and services. There were tours, and multiple opportunities to learn about green design, obtaining a certification or just networking. The one thing that stood out this year was the pure enthusiasm of people you meet at Greenbuild for making a change in the 'green' direction. Not only did the people that attend have enthusiasm, there was a continued upbeat momentum throughout the conference. Learning about new ideas, new products, new thought processes and hearing about people making huge leaps in the green realm of design is highly motivating. At the closing plenary, the man sitting next to me, (who happened to be the president of his local Florida USGBC chapter) said that Greenbuild was his dose of motivation for the year to keep pushing toward a greener future. --Cari Powers



PARE attends 2010 Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education Conference

Pare attended the AASHE conference held on October 13th-17th in Denver CO. Over 2100 attendees from 10 countries, 500 campuses and 49 states were in attendance.

The conference theme was "*Campus Initiatives to Catalyze a Just and Sustainable World.*" Some of the conference goals were:

- Highlighting possibilities for creating leadership and funding for sustainable curriculum.
- Placing emphasis on transforming the campus through cross-sector collaborative efforts in order to establish economic sustainability.
- Connecting the role of local higher education sustainability initiatives as it relates to social justice and the global campus.

Ed Begley, Jr. was the highlighted keynote speaker at the conference. He gave a rousing speech outlining personal responsibility by all for sustainable living. When it comes to taking personal responsibility for the environment, few individuals in Hollywood can match the 40-year record of this actor and activist.

For an idea of Ed Begley's commitment you can catch him on his hit Planet Green series "Living with Ed," a look at the day-to-day realities of "living green" with his not-so-environmentalist wife Rachelle Carson. --Scott Lindgren



PARE attends 2010 Green Streets and Highway Conference

Over 350 people attended the 1st T&DI/ASCE Green Streets and Highways Conference held on November 14-17, 2010. The conference organizers wanted to respond to the rapidly growing interest and activity in sustainable transportation by sharing information on leading-edge environmental stewardship and sustainability principles and practices. One of the underlying themes of the conference was the concept of the Triple Bottom Line, whereby transportation systems in order to be sustainable need to take into account economics, the community, and the environment. Panel discussions and work groups were held on a wide range of topics including:

- Sustainable Transportation Planning,
- Green Streets and Highways,
- Watershed and Stormwater practices,
- Sustainable Materials,
- Green Education and Training, and
- Green Performance Rating Systems to name a few.

ASCE will be unveiling sometime next year Advanced Credential requirements for Civil Engineers interested in Sustainable Practices, which is slated to be in the same vein as the LEED Credentialing. Another note worthy topic included the Green Performance Rating Systems. Although voluntary now, FHWA highly encourages States to use some form of a rating system to evaluate their projects. There are currently over a half a dozen systems in use throughout the country for the rating of Transportation Projects, with very few states incorporating them in their project development. Similar to LEED the rating systems are scaled depending on how "Sustainable" or "Green" a project is, taking into account a wide range of variables. Our next steps will be to coordinate with RIDOT, MassDOT, and municipalities to determine how PARE can best help those clients in this process. --Kevin Viveiros

Upcoming Event:

The Rhode Island Green Building Council chapter of the USGBC kicks off the new year with educational seminars for LEED APs, Green Associates and others.

Title: BD+C 252 LEED for New Construction Credit by Credit Review - Sustainable Sites

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011 4:30PM-6:30PM
Location: New England Institute of Technology Warwick, RI

Moderator: Scott Lindgren, LEED AP BD+C, Managing Engineer, Pare Corporation.

CEUs: 2 GBCI CE hours and/or 2 AIA/CES

Cost: \$25 **Free for anyone NOT seeking CEUs

Visit www.usgbc.org to register