 From: Lorie Ann Jermoune  
> Subject: Green homes, home renovations and products also save money!  
> To: “Lorie Ann Jermoune”  
> \*Cc: “Tom Ski” <"Tom Ski"

> From: Lorie Ann Jermoune

> Subject: Florida building construction;\*

> To: “Lorie Ann Jermoune”  
> \*Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2011, 9:22 AM\*

> It is my opinion that most people may be uninformed about the many   
> benefits in green homes, green home renovations and eco-friendly   
> products and practices. Building construction is evolving and becoming   
> more in-line, in America, with how buildings are constructed overseas.  
> For example, the interior walls can be made of steel and concrete, in   
> lieu of expensive wood thus saving our trees.  
> Products such as cotton fiber, Icynene foam and cellulose are fast   
> gaining recognition, application and appreciation in the construction   
> industry. The most recognizable product is cotton. Ever noticed the   
> rising cost of cotton? For an important reason:it is quickly being   
> sought by home builders and home renovators. The cotton material used   
> is made from recycled batted material; treated to be fire-proof.  
> Certain building products offer increased durability and help in   
> sealing the building envelope. It is estimated that the lifespan of   
> metal roofing is more than 50 years. Concrete and copper roofing   
> products are expected to last a lifetime.  
> In commercial buildings, innovation can also help cut cost and have   
> many benefits. A building can be rated platinum, silver, or gold based   
> on performance via LEED checklist. The rating is a point system based   
> on building materials; amount of natural lighting;heat/cool efficiency   
> and water usage. LEED stands for is the Leadership in Energy and   
> Environmental Design.  
> Sealing the building envelope; Reduces air leakage into and out of the   
> home. Lot selection; positioning of the home reduces the energy usage   
> of the home. Ho w do you seal your building envelope?  
> You can contribute by sealing the duct system, fire place, plumbing   
> penetration, doors,windows, fans, vents and electrical outlets. Holes   
> need to be sealed around all penetrations including gaps being filled   
> too! . .  
> Another benefit is a healthy home is a home built to withstand the   
> test of time. The U.S. Green Building Council estimates new savings of   
> $50-$65 per square inch for positively constructed green buildings.  
> Living on our planet is important; sustaining our environment is also   
> important by being aware. Being aware of the results of improper   
> building materials and the harm to our environment is essential and   
> with expanded actions and thinking we can save time and money too!  
> Lorie Ann Jermoune  
> <http://twitter.com/lorieannj>  
> <http://webvideocall.oovoo.com/callme/lorieannj/269>  
> HERE IS THE PLAGIARIZED ARTICLE: I have a background in commercial   
> insurance; he never printed my article above, but stole my   
> information, and research and rehashed the below article on the   
> [Greenregister.com](http://greenregister.com/) <[http://Greenregister.com](http://greenregister.com/)>  
> <http://www.thegreenregister.com/building/82-leed-a-regreen-the-standards-in-green-construction>  
> Welcome to the LEED and REGREEN collection. I will start this series   
> of articles by emphasizing the importance of building green in today’s   
> world. While many of us in the architecture, design and construction   
> industries are very familiar with green building, LEED and REGREEN,   
> there are still a considerable number of professionals out there as   
> well as consumers that are not totally aware of the importance of   
> green building and I truly believe that it is our job to educate them.  
> Developed in 90′s by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC),   
> a Washington-D.C. based, nonprofit organization, LEED (Leadership in   
> Energy and Environmental Design) is a worldwide recognized rating   
> system that sets the benchmark for the design, construction and   
> operation of high-performance green buildings and communities. As of   
> today there are 7,748 LEED certified projects worldwide, with 7,255 of   
> those projects located here in the US.  
> LEED certified projects will be awarded Certified, Silver, Gold, and   
> Platinum based on the extent to which the design and construction of   
> the building meets the five criteria addressed by the LEED rating   
> system: sustainable site development, water savings, energy   
> efficiency, materials selection and indoor air quality.  
> Unlike traditional construction where each element is planned and   
> designed individually, a building that follows the LEED rating system   
> considers the project as a whole where all the components are   
> integrated. This way, typical building systems such as heating,   
> cooling, plumbing, energy and water use are interconnected to make the   
> overall project an energy efficient and sustainable one.  
> Although green construction methods can be incorporated into buildings   
> at any phase, from design and construction, to renovation and   
> deconstruction, the most significant results are generated when both   
> design and construction teams take an integrated approach in the   
> earliest stages of the project.  
> The upfront investment of having a green building is still higher than   
> your average building but the overall lower operating costs will save   
> you a lot of money over the life of the building. Remember, a   
> sustainable building is a structure that is designed, built,   
> renovated, operated, or reused in an eco-friendly way by adopting   
> green building strategies that minimize the impact caused by   
> irresponsible construction on the natural environment.  
> Why should you build Green?  
> There are countless benefits of a green building. Let’s start by   
> highlighting the environmental advantage a high performance green   
> building will produce by preserving natural resources while reducing   
> solid waste and enhancing the biodiversity of the building’s surroundings.  
> A building (or home) that is designed and built to be energy efficient   
> will promote the use of less local infrastructure and utilities than   
> when compared to a traditional one. Furthermore, in many   
> municipalities across the U.S., a green home qualifies for tax and   
> other incentives, including zoning allowances.  
> Besides that, a well designed and maintained green building will also   
> improve the quality of life of its occupants in several ways. A recent   
> study conducted by Michigan State University researchers, found that   
> workers who moved from conventional office buildings to green   
> buildings called in sick less often and they were more productive. Our   
> next article will discuss in detail how you can apply sustainable   
> solutions to your office and improve your business.  
> What Makes a Building Green?  
> Building green goes beyond material and finishes selection, solar   
> panels or green roofs. Building green involves careful planning that   
> starts by selecting the appropriated location where the surrounding   
> land is already developed to minimize the building’s impact on   
> ecosystems and waterways. A great site selection will consider the   
> natural lay of the land while encouraging the use of native plant   
> species to the area. A community previously developed will also   
> facilitate the use of public transportation.  
> According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), buildings in   
> the United States account for 39% of the total energy use, 12% of the   
> total water consumption, 68% of the total electricity used and, last   
> but not least, 38% of the total percentage of carbon dioxide emissions.  
> A successful green building will address the water and energy issues   
> by setting up efficient appliances, fixtures and fittings inside and   
> water-wise landscaping outside as well as by promoting the use of   
> renewable and clean sources of energy, generated either on-site or   
> off-site.  
> We all know during both the construction and operation phases,   
> buildings produce a lot of waste and bring into play a lot of   
> materials and resources. Sustainable buildings will select materials   
> that are mostly salvaged or recycled by products from other   
> industries. The consumption of toxic chemicals and materials is   
> reduced and the adoption of a design strategy that employs products   
> and materials that are sustainably grown, harvested, produced and   
> transported is highly encouraged.  
> Since the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that   
> Americans spend about 90% of their day indoors, a successful green   
> building will maximize the use of natural sunlight and views as well   
> as it will support strategies that improve the indoor air quality and   
> the acoustics.  
> REGREEN – The Residential Guideline  
> Launched in March 2008, REGREEN is the nation’s first set of resources   
> and tools for green home retrofitting projects. The REGREEN program   
> was developed through a partnership between the United States Green   
> Building council (USGBC) and the American Society of Interior   
> Designers (ASID). While LEED for Homes addresses the design and   
> construction of the home as a whole and analyzes its interaction with   
> the surrounding environment, the REGREEN program can be applied to a   
> variety of home projects, from remodeling a small room to a major   
> addition.  
> Even though the REGREEN program addresses the major elements of any   
> green renovation project, including site selection, water efficiency,   
> energy and atmosphere, material and resources, and indoor   
> environmental quality, REGREEN is still a set of guidelines and not a   
> rating system, and homeowners who follow those guidelines do not   
> receive any award to hang outside their homes. The third article of   
> the LEED and REGREEN series will address how both homeowners and   
> industry professionals can benefit from the REGREEN program. To learn   
> more about this amazing program visit the REGREEN webiste at   
> [http://www.regreenprogram.org](http://www.regreenprogram.org/)/.  
> By Andrea Vollf, LEED AP ID+C, ASID, Allied AIA  
  
  
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