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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Victoria Strauss
PASSION BLUE (Amazon Children's Publishing, 2012)
Website: [http://www.victoriastrauss.com](http://www.victoriastrauss.com/)/
Writer Beware: [http://www.writerbeware.org](http://www.writerbeware.org/)/
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