

**Q & A on reusable  
building materials**

**Upcoming seminars &  
local events**

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**Dear Lynn,**

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### **Q & A on reusable building materials**

*Interview with Leslie Kirkland (The Loading Dock)*



Leslie Kirkland serves as the Executive Director of The Loading Dock, one of the premier building material reuse centers in the country. The Baltimore, Maryland organization accepts all types of building and refurbishing materials: from doors and windows to cabinets, flooring, shingles and concrete. The materials are then provided to people with low-incomes for a small handling fee. The Loading

Dock redistributes over 7,000 tons per year of recovered building materials.

#### **What does the Loading Dock do?**

*In short, The Loading Dock collects donated, new and used, surplus building materials from individuals and companies, and redistributes them through our 42,000 square foot warehouse. The materials once headed for local landfills, are put to use in homes, non-profits and small businesses in the Baltimore and surrounding areas.*

#### **How did you get into this field?**

*I got into this field by accident and then fell in love with the common sense aspect of it. I had spent a year after college managing a volunteer program and homeless shelter. After that, I wanted to work for a non-profit and*

*liked the business aspect to The Loading Dock.*

**Do people buy materials for new, as well as, existing homes and buildings?**

*Yes, but people mostly buy for existing homes as they are using the materials in more renovation jobs vs. new construction. New construction generates more of the left over materials that need to find another home through a reuse center.*

**What is your favorite reuse item/application?**

*1) On the practical home equity side, reusable kitchen cabinets sets: they can transform a home with some creative measuring and ingenuity.*

*2) On the fun side, broken and small quantities of neat ceramic tile, marble and granite. They're great for mosaics as art projects & neat bathroom walls, or covering outside cinderblock walls or patios out of broken pieces of granite and marble.*

**Who uses these materials and products?**

*Homeowners, landlords, contractors, non-profit groups, art teachers, start up businesses, community & neighborhood organizations referring their neighbors.*

**Do other cities have similar reuse stores?**

*Yes. The Loading Dock has helped a few get started by sharing the trials and tribulations of starting up in the early 80's. [www.redo.org](http://www.redo.org) has a link ("find a reuse center") that is more or less up to date by state with listings of groups in existence. Some handle art materials, others have building materials, and a few handle surplus office furniture.*

**What's going to happen in the future with reuse stores?**

*On the product supply side, reuse stores will follow the building industry. On the demand side, there will always be a need for inexpensive building materials in lower income communities.*

Thanks Leslie!

To learn more, stay tuned for an upcoming class on deconstruction and reusable materials with The Loading

Dock, and two local companies within the industry, Community Forklift and Deconstruction Services.

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### **Upcoming seminars & local events**

#### **Green Building Institute class titles in BOLD.**

To register for a Green Building Institute class, please visit [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org).

#### **Saturday, September 9, 2006**

American Clay workshops  
Amicus Green Building Center  
Kensington, Maryland  
More info: [www.amicusgreen.com](http://www.amicusgreen.com)

#### **6:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 12, 2006**

Green Building Network meeting  
Initiated by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the Green Building Network (GBN) is an ad-hoc, informal group of architects, builders, contractors, developers, planners, landscape architects, related professionals, and citizens.  
The Network focuses on promoting and encouraging the design and construction of buildings, and the development of sites, in a manner that encourages efficient use of natural resources and raw materials, protects the environment, and promotes sustainable communities. The general public is always warmly invited to GBN meetings.  
7761 Waterloo Rd.  
Jessup, Maryland  
More info: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/ed/mdgbn/>

#### **9:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, 2006** **Understanding Federal Energy Efficiency Tax Credits for HOMEOWNERS**

How to get tax credits (money back) for making your home more energy efficient!  
What kind of energy-efficient improvements qualify? What kind of tax breaks? How much? & MORE!  
7761 Waterloo Rd.  
Jessup, Maryland  
More info: [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org)

**10:30am - 12:00pm Sunday, September 17, 2006**

Living Green

Amicus will present an educational and informative seminar on healthy green building products and services available to homeowners and how to integrate them into their home renovation projects. We'll answer your questions regarding this topic and other issues relating to designing and living within a green and healthy home.

Bethesda, Maryland

More info: [www.amicusgreen.com](http://www.amicusgreen.com)

**7:00 p.m. Wednesday, September 20, 2006**

**Green Building Institute movie night: Outdoor Maryland: Agriculture: Working Lands**

RSVP: (443) 733-1234

7761 Waterloo Rd.

Jessup, Maryland

More info: [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org)

**8:00 am - 11:00 am Thursday, September 21, 2006**

**Understanding Federal Energy Efficiency Tax Credits for BUSINESSES/Organizations**

There is a huge potential for tax incentives for commercial businesses who install energy efficient devices. Receive up to \$1.80 per square foot of improved floor space!

Find out:

- What are the efficiency requirements?
- What upgrades apply?
- Which systems?
- What are the deadlines?
- What are the tax credits?
- How much?

7761 Waterloo Rd.

Jessup, Maryland

More info: [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org)

**7:00pm Thursday, September 28, 2006**

Sandra Leibowitz Earley discusses her newly published book "Ecological Design and Building Schools: New Guidebook to Green Building Education"

Amicus Green Building Center

Kensington, Maryland

More info: [www.amicusgreen.com](http://www.amicusgreen.com)

**Friday, September 29, 2006**

Best Practices for a Green Building Region

Maryland Green Building Conference, the Washington

Council of Governments, Maryland Department of Natural Resources - Environmental Design Program  
University of Maryland  
More info: [www.mwcog.org](http://www.mwcog.org)

**8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday, September 30, 2006**

**How to be Green**

Introductory seminars on:

- Efficient and healthy buildings
- Solar hot water for your home
- Rainwater collection for garden use
- Solar electric for your home

7761 Waterloo Rd.  
Jessup, Maryland  
More info: [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org)

**Friday October 6 – Saturday, October 7, 2006**

Ten Secrets to Better Climate Organizing  
U.S. Climate Emergency Council and CCAN  
Washington, DC  
More info: [www.chesapeakeclimate.org](http://www.chesapeakeclimate.org)

**Saturday - Sunday, October 14-15, 2006**

Green Festival  
D.C. Convention Center  
Washington, D.C.  
More info: [www.greenfestivals.org](http://www.greenfestivals.org)

**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Thursday, October 19, 2006**

**Introduction to Green Roofs**

This seminar will answer these questions and more:

- What benefits does installing a green roof have on a building?
- Do green roofs help the environment?
- What types of plants survive on a green roof?
- How do you maintain green roofs?
- How much does a green roof cost?
- Are there green roofs in the area?

7761 Waterloo Rd.  
Jessup, Maryland  
More info: [www.greenbuildinginstitute.org](http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org)

**Saturday, November 18, 2006**

Green remodeling exposition  
"Greenovation Home Expo"  
National Building Museum  
Washington, DC

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### Get Involved

There are many opportunities to get involved with the Green Building Institute.

Interested in serving on a committee?  
Volunteering?  
Staffing a class?  
Sponsoring an event?  
Interning? If so, please call us at (443) 733-1234.

**Get Involved**

The Green Building Institute, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, fosters sustainable building practices through education and example.

**Sincerely,**

Hannah C. Wood  
Green Building Institute

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web: <http://www.greenbuildinginstitute.org>

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