



September 2008

# Green Building Institute Newsletter

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Dear Lynn,

Our first volunteer appreciation night, held on September 16th, was our opportunity to thank everyone who has given of their time in a variety of ways to help grow the Green Building Institute. Over thirty people gathered to both socialize and recognize some of our dedicated volunteers. We were delighted to welcome others who are interested in helping on the various committees that are an integral part of making the Institute the success it can be. Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Barry Fields, Ian Oxenham, David Darymple, Jason and Josh of GreeNEWIT, David Woolley-Wilson, Mekdim Tesfaye and Abi Rome.

This year we are also fortunate to have two high school students working as interns for the Institute. You can expect to see some of Allison's and Karina's efforts in our newsletters and website. We enjoy their enthusiasm and energy. Karina wrote our feature article for this month's newsletter.

Stan Sersen  
Founder and Board President



Left to right Jason & Josh of GreeNEWIT, David Darymple, Ian, Abi, Barry, David and Mekdim.



left to right Board Members Abi, Barry, Stan, David, Lyn, Paul, Leslie & Matt

## Beyond the Bin

Karina French

Producing more waste than just paper and plastic? Check out how to keep these

everyday items out of the landfill and out of your house.

**Computers:** If you are looking for a place to unload your outdated computer, try contacting **First Time Computers** at [www.firsttimecomputers.org](http://www.firsttimecomputers.org), or call at 202-722-2822. The organization will pick up your computer within the D.C. area, fix it up, and donate it to an eligible family or group. If your computer is no longer usable, organizations such as **Turtle Wings** will recycle it, along with a number of other household electronics. Contact them at [www.turtlewings.com](http://www.turtlewings.com) or call at 301-583-8399.

**Prescription Eyeglasses & Hearing Aids:** Local area **Lion's clubs** are collecting used eyeglasses and hearing aids, sterilizing and categorizing them, and sending them to underdeveloped countries. All items get sent through the Lions Recycling Center in Falls Church, Virginia. Visit their website at <http://members.cox.net/lerc/> or call at 703-241-7004 to find out when and where items can be dropped off. Many places that sell prescription glasses will also collect old pairs for local Lion's clubs.

**Cellular Phones:** **Eco Cell**, a nationwide organization, will take your usable and non-usable cell phones to fix and recycle. The closest collection site is the Smithsonian National Zoological Park in Washington, D.C. - look for the green collection cart while enjoying the wild fun of the national zoo. Visit Eco Cell at [www.eco-cell.org](http://www.eco-cell.org) or call at 502-896-4398.

**Clothes:** Send your old garments to support developing countries in Africa and Asia through **Planet Aid**. You can drop off unwanted clothing and footwear in the Baltimore-Washington area at a warehouse collection box in Columbia, Maryland. Call 410-309-1002 for direct connection to that collection, or visit [www.planetaid.org](http://www.planetaid.org) for more information.

**Plastic Containers:** Instead of tossing your #5 plastic ketchup bottles and yogurt containers, send them to **Preserve**, who will recycle the plastic and from it produce eco-friendly toothbrushes. To find out more information, or to purchase your own Preserve toothbrush, visit [www.recycline.com](http://www.recycline.com), or call 888-354-7296. Mail your clean plastic containers to:

Preserve Gimme 5  
823 NYS Rte 13  
Cortland NY 13045

## Upcoming Classes

### [Making Your Home More Energy Efficient](#)

Wednesday September 24th, 2008

### [Indoor Air Quality](#)

Saturday October 18th, 2008

### [Go Green, Save Green: Baltimore](#)

at the Herring Run Watershed Center

Saturday October 18th, 2008

### [EcoTourism - Trends, Tours & Tips for the Discerning Traveler & Tour Operator](#)

Wednesday October 22nd, 2008

### [Energy Efficient Lighting Options for Your Home](#)

Thursday October 23rd, 2008

### [Go Green, Save Green: Howard County](#)

Saturday October 25th, 2008

For more information, or to register for classes, click [here](#).

## Upcoming Events

**October 7, 2008 - Green Building Network Meeting - Location Green Building Institute, 7761 Waterloo Road, Jessup MD 6:30pm - 8:30pm.**

To sign up for a tour of the Enviro Center prior to the Network meeting, please email us at [info@greenbuildinginstitute.org](mailto:info@greenbuildinginstitute.org) and put **Building Tour** in the subject line.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is one of the world's premiere scientific research organizations. GROWING GREEN: The Second Green Revolution will solidify ARS' role in addressing global issues concerning biofuel, bioproducts, and sustainability.



GROWING GREEN is unlike any other technology showcase, as it will feature technologies and projects by teams of ARS researchers brought together to provide solutions to important environmental and energy problems.

Date:  
October 30, 2008

Time:  
7:15 am - 5:30 pm

Cost:  
\$80 per person. Registration ends October 23, 2008.

Location:  
Four Points Sheraton BWI Airport  
7032 Elm Road  
Baltimore MD 21240  
[Fourpoints.com/bwiairport](http://Fourpoints.com/bwiairport)

Visit [Growing Green](#) for more information

The Green Building Institute, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, educates the public, building and design professionals about sustainable building practices and technologies.



**GREENBUILDING  
INSTITUTE**

Lyn Rowell  
Green Building Institute  
Board Secretary

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