

NAHB announces national green program

The grass was greener in Orlando at the NAHB International Builders Show, and so were the seminars. Those in attendance quickly found that green building dominated the seminar circuit. While some of the week's seminars were only half full, the green building seminars were at capacity or overflowing with builders and associates who wanted to get an early start on the green building standards and verification process.



Green Building Update

By David Kovich,
GMB, CAPS

*Green Building Committee
Chairman,
Indiana Builders Association*

We will all have to wait. As I left the show, my best guess is that the green building standards will come out in May 2008. There is now a third comment period and it appears to me that the American National Standards Institute accreditation makes it necessary. The wait is a needed change and the information below shows that green building leaves plenty for us to do to prepare for the green building standards.

For those interested in green building,

the NAHB and IBA are offering several programs to assist builders and associates with this emerging trend.

* Visit the NAHB National Green Building Program Web site at www.nahbgreen.org. You can now register and use the NAHB Green Scoring Tool to determine how many points your project would earn using the NAHB Green Model Home Building Guidelines. This tool is very easy to use and provides a running total of points earned, as well as additional information about what you can do to make your projects green. This Web site is an excellent resource for information on all aspects of the green building program.

* Utilize the NAHB Green Building hotline 1-877-NAHB-GRN (877-624-2476.) It is open from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. The hotline is available to answer questions, address comments and provide resources to professionals looking to build green.

* Attend the NAHB Green Building Conference scheduled for May 11 to 13, 2008 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans. It will be a great opportunity to get contacts, tools and ideas that are good for both the environment and your bottom line.

While NAHB covers the standards on the national front, IBA has a full slate of activities through May of 2008 to educate Hoosiers about green building.

* Make earning a Certified Green Pro-

fessional, CGP, designation a priority. The three-day program is being offered around the state. CGP graduates will be able to locate and design green building development sites as well as consider green building objectives in a remodeling project. See page 8 for details.

* Attend IBA's Get Excited About Going Green Conference on May 12, 2008 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Indianapolis Marriott in downtown Indianapolis. The cost is \$25 per person; additional registrants from the same company are \$15. Details below.

* IBA is in the process of arranging seminars for verifiers for the green building program. Contact IBA for dates and locations.

Some of the costs associated with participating in the NAHB Green Build Program as currently released are a \$150 registration fee per year. There will be a \$150 certificate fee per home and the builder will be responsible for hiring an approved verifier for inspections and verification.

Think and act green. Get your green certification designation, attend a Green Building Conference, and begin building and remodeling to the green building guidelines today.

Questions concerning Green Building, call Gretchen White, IBA's Government Affairs Director, at (317) 236-6334 or David Kovich at (765) 423-1510.