

# Lightly Treading Community Newsletter

March 2010



## March's Green Facts:

RECYCLING claimed 79 million tons of waste last year? According to the EPA's last study, that's 32% of the waste in the United States. For hard to recycle items try out CHaRM in Boulder. [link](#)

Next time you get poison ivy or need an insect repellent and don't want to use DEET think about trying vodka as a natural remedy. Vodka seems to have a variety of useful functions in addition to adding it to a cocktail at the end of the week. Check out 12 alternative uses for vodka [here](#).

## March Announcements and Resources

### Job Opportunities at Lightly Treading

RESNET Energy Rater: Requirements include current RESNET Certification and having completed a minimum of 15 ratings following RESNET protocol. Click [here](#) for details.

Energy Auditor: Must have either current BPI or RESNET certification. Details will be posted on our [website](#) within the next week.

### Lightly Treading is recognized for our work with EPA's Indoor airPLUS Program

See the full press release [here](#).

### **COLORADANS CAN SAVE MONEY, ENERGY; GEO TO LAUNCH REBATE PROGRAM APRIL 19** *Consumers to get money back for appliances, solar panels, insulation, home efficiency improvements;* *Governor's Energy Office encourages homeowners to plan ahead*

Coloradans can soon tap into millions of Recovery Act dollars and take steps to save money, boost the economy and save energy as the Governor's Energy Office and partners prepare to launch a sweeping, statewide rebate program April 19. This initiative is designed to bring energy efficiency and renewable energy to tens of thousands of Coloradans and will provide nearly 75,000 rebates worth approximately \$22 million.

Click [here](#) to see the full press release dated March 16, 2010

### Colorado's huge step forward!

Legislation passed, requiring 30% of energy provided to Colorado by Xcel Energy to come from renewable sources!

### Wild Pointe Development: Largest LEED Platinum Development in the U.S.

Lightly Treading has been selected to be the Green Rater for this project. Watch this [video](#) to learn more about this exciting new development!

### New Energy Saving Loans Coming Soon

The state will soon be executing 2008 legislation that provides \$12.5K loans from a fund of \$4 million for homeowners who want to invest in energy saving improvements to their home. Additional details will be released May 1, 2010. Lightly Treading will be working with the Governor's Energy Office to help create turn-key solutions for homeowners in regards to these loans.

### Climate Smart is in its 3<sup>rd</sup> round of financing

The 3rd round of residential financing is available to Boulder County homeowners, more than 40 different residential energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades are available for financing. Residents must attend one free workshop,

these start March 15 and run through April 28. [www.climatesmartloanprogram.org](http://www.climatesmartloanprogram.org)

### **Electric Rate Increase for Xcel Energy Electric Customers**

The ECA (electric cost adjustment) component of customers' electric bills will be increasing from \$0.02934 per kilowatt-hour to \$0.03738 per kilowatt-hour, resulting in a average monthly increase of \$5.18 (based on an average 632 kWh/month). This increase will go into effect April 1.

### **HomeStar Program Update**

The White House is working to move the HomeStar program into law. See the attached press release for details.

### **Looking to Volunteer?**

The EarthWorks Expo is looking for volunteers during Earth Day week, April 19-25, to help promote the May 22-23<sup>rd</sup> expo. Volunteers will receive free admission to the expo. See their [website](#) for details on how to sign-up to help out this sustainability event. OR try contacting the Boulder Green Building Guild and volunteer to help educate the Boulder community, click [here](#) to get started.

## **Upcoming Community Events**

### **Energy Saving U Workshop Series**

Presented by United Power. For full details and schedule visit their [website](#)

March 20: Wind Power and Renewable Rebates

March 23: Insulating Your Duct Work

### **[Efficiency First](#)**

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association: 7649 Rea Pkwy, Windsor

*We will be joined by Efficiency First Wyoming! And sharing information about the new Home Star legislation, learning about the future of home performance contracting, connecting with RESNET & BPI training providers, talking about finding the work and the money in the new energy-efficient economy. Please RSVP ([SustainableInteriors@yahoo.com](mailto:SustainableInteriors@yahoo.com)) so that we know the number of folks attending.*

April 29<sup>th</sup> – Denver, at Lightly Treading Office

May 27<sup>th</sup> – Berthoud, at Energy Logic Office

### **CRES Monthly Meeting**

March 25<sup>th</sup>; 7pm

Cost and Location Details: click [here](#)

*"This month's meeting focuses on the issues related to transporting renewable energy to population centers in Colorado. The guest speaker is Morey Wolfson, a Transmission Program Manager for the Governor's Energy Office."*

### **Faith and Sustainability**

The Denver Metro area has several upcoming events focusing on faith and responsibility to our planet. See the attached release from Eco-Justice Ministries to learn more about these events.

### **Denver's Old House Society**

Old House Fair

March 27<sup>th</sup> - 9am – 4pm

Highland Masonic Temple, 3550 Federal Blvd

*Denver's Old House Society's Old House Fair, scheduled for Saturday, March 27, offers 10 workshops focused on maintaining houses for value and energy efficiency and gracing their architectural style inside and out. See the attached media release for details or visit their [website](#).*

### **Alliance for Sustainable Colorado & New Belgium Brewery Scavenger Hunt**

April 3<sup>rd</sup>; 10am – 3pm; Loveland Ski Area

Register [here](#)

*"This is a day to don your best costume, chase chickens, search for bigfoot and answer some ridiculous riddles all while skiing, raising money for The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, and bonding with your friends."*

### **Intro to Green Living in your Garden and Home**

Denver Botanic Gardens

March 30, 2010; 7:00pm- 8:30pm

Cost: \$15.00 (member) / \$20.00 (non member) / \$25.00 (member day of class) / \$30.00 (non member day of class)

*"Learn how green living will help you save money and reduce toxins in your home and garden. A comprehensive hand-out will outline the many green resources in the Denver area along with suggested "green" products to use or make yourself."*

View their [website](#) for details.

### **Rocky Mountain Green 2010**

April 21-22, Denver Convention Center

Register by March 19<sup>th</sup> and save up to 20%

*The USGBC's green building conference. Education sessions, GBCI CE hours, interactive green building tours, networking with green professionals and more! For full schedule and visit [www.usgbccolorado.org](http://www.usgbccolorado.org)*

### **Rocky Mountain Sustainable Living Association Earth Day Fundraiser**

April 23; 7-10pm

Odell Brewing Company- 800 East Lincon Avenue in Fort Collins

*Enjoy live music, local speakers, a silent auction, appetizers and Odell beer. Tickets are \$20 for RMSLA members, \$25 for non-members and includes appetizers and two drink tokens. Tickets go on sale March 1st and space is limited to 150 people so be sure to purchase your tickets in advance. Pre-registration is suggested and you must be 21 years old to attend. Click [here](#) to register.*

### **Boulder County Green Building Conference**

April 26<sup>th</sup>; University of Colorado at Boulder

*"Not just a conference - this groundbreaking local event will bring together green building professionals, local government staff, local officials, practitioners, and innovators to educate, learn, inspire, and build connections."*

### **EarthWorks Expo 2010**

May 22-23; Denver Merchandise Mart

Click [here](#) for details

### **Mountain Area Home & Garden Show**

May 22-23; Evergreen High School

Click [here](#) for details

### **2010 National Cohousing Conference**

June 18-20; Boulder, CO

Early Bird Registration ends March 31<sup>st</sup>; click [here](#) for details and registration.

*The Cohousing Association of the United States (Coho/US) announces its 16th conference. This conference will be held at the University of Colorado-Boulder. Pre-conference workshops – known as Cohousing University – will take place June 16-17, 2010, with the conference running June 18-20, 2010.*

## **Green Careers, Education Opportunities and the New Energy Economy**

### **Building Science Trainings:**

Lightly Treading is partnered with the Rocky Mountain Education Center (RMEC) at Red Rocks Community College to offer monthly 5 day long BPI Building Analyst preparation classes. Building Analysts certification will prepare you for working as an energy auditor as well as in the home improvement industry, teaching you the details of building science and how the house works as a system. Click [here](#) for pricing and schedule details. Or call the RMEC today to register 303-914-6420.

The April class is full, registration for the May 10-14<sup>th</sup> class is open now!

### **Energy Solutions for Existing Homes**

April 10-11; 9am – 5pm

CU Boulder, Continuing Education Center 140

## 1.60 CEUs

After course completion, students will be able to: Assess, prioritize, and implement improvements, Identify common air leakage and insulation issues, Distinguish which improvement are cost-effective and which are only costly. Course taught by Bill Lucas of GB3, a Lightly Treading auditing partner. Follow this [link](#) for more details and to register.

## CoSEIA Presents: Advanced Off-Grid and Hybrid Photovoltaic Systems with Larry LeDue

April 9, 2010; 8am – 5pm; Golden

Details and Registration: click [here](#)

*"This workshop will give you advanced training in design, sizing, mounting and State and Federal Code (NEC) standards for off-grid photovoltaic systems. This workshop meets the continuing education requirements for CoSEIA and NABCEP certification and will count as 7 contact hours."*

## Resources

Alliance for Sustainable Colorado – [Sustainability Calendar of Events](#)

[Boulder Green Building Guild](#) (BGBG)

[Center for Resource Conservation](#) (CRC)

[Colorado Renewable Energy Society](#) (CRES)

## Don't Forget

Xcel Energy sponsored energy efficiency presentations are available for free to Xcel Energy customers, groups of ten or more. Call LT to set one up. See Lightly Treading's [website](#) for a schedule of local presentations.

Thank you for being a part of our grassroots community.

Sincerely,

Paul Kriescher, Principal  
And the Staff of Lightly Treading

## Lightly Treading, Inc.

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