

Lightly Treading Community Newsletter

April 2010



April's Green Facts:

This year celebrates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day. The first Earth Day was on April 22, 1970; marking the beginning of the modern environmental movement over 40 million Americans participated. Read [more](#) about the history of Earth Day.

Celebrate the anniversary of Earth Day! Sign a petition to declare our energy independence that will be delivered to our Senators on April 22. [More](#).

April Announcements and Resources

Lightly Treading has an opportunity for a Bookkeeper/Accountant to join our Team

The scope of this position is to accurately account for all financial matters of Lightly Treading. For full details visit our [website](#) or contact Fran Kornfeld 303-733-3078 ext. 313, FranK@LightlyTreading.com.

GEO Rebate Program: Recharge Colorado

The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) will be offering rebates for various energy upgrades beginning 8 a.m. April 19 as part of the state's 'Recharge Colorado' campaign. 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](#). Consumers are expected to act fast so make sure you take advantage of this unique opportunity right away. More details about the program can be found [here](#). The rebate website www.RechargeColorado.com will be active at 8:00 am on April 19th, there will also be a call center available at 1-800-462-0184

ONE-THIRD OF COLORADO NEW HOMES QUALIFIED AS ENERGY STAR MODELS IN 2009.

Nearly one-third of new homes built in Colorado in 2009 were ENERGY STAR qualified, according to new information released by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). This data is the latest to show how homebuilders and home buyers in the state are increasingly embracing the multiple benefits associated with the construction and purchase of energy-saving homes. When Governor Bill Ritter's Energy Office initiated the ENERGY STAR New Homes program in 2007, market penetration of ENERGY STAR New Homes was just under 8 percent. That level increased to 19.4 percent in 2008 and reached nearly 33 percent last year. In all, 2,350 new homes in Colorado earned the ENERGY STAR label in 2009, making them an important part of the state's New Energy Economy.

Department of Energy Sets Tough Standards for Home Water Heaters & Other Heating Products

DOE announced on April 1 that it has finalized higher energy efficiency standards for a key group of heating appliances that will together save consumers up to \$10 billion and prevent up to 164 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions over the 30 years after they take effect.

Action in Senate to Extend Energy Efficient Home Tax Credit for New Homes

After the federal energy efficient tax credit of \$2,000 expired on December 31, 2009, RESNET and a broad coalition of environmental, energy efficiency advocate groups and the National Association of Home Builders have been advocating the extension of the credit. Our voices have been heard ([more](#)).

DOT & EPA Boost Fuel Economy: Sets Green House Gas Emission Limits for Light Vehicles

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) jointly established new federal rules on April 1 that set the first-ever national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards for all new passenger cars and light trucks sold in the United States. The rules, which will significantly increase the fuel economy of the vehicles starting with the 2012 model year, could save the average buyer \$3,000 over the life of a 2016 model year

car. Overall, the measures will conserve about 1.8 billion barrels of oil, and reduce nearly a billion tons of GHG emissions over the lives of the vehicles covered.

The Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP)

In April 2008 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a rule that will have a significant impact on the renovation and remodeling industry. The Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP) will change how contractors go about working on certain buildings constructed before 1978. After April 22, 2010, federal law will require contractors to be certified and to use lead-safe work practices.

The RRP Requires two separate certifications and specific training.

To find out more information visit the [EPA RRP Web Page](#). Trainings are being offered in Boulder, CO visit [Weecycle's website](#) for details.

Climate Smart is in its 3rd 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

Help Make HOME STAR a Reality!

HOME STAR is proposed new legislation to create jobs in existing industries by providing strong short-term incentives for energy efficiency improvements in residential buildings. [Join](#) the HOME STAR Coalition and help move the legislation forward! ([more.](#))

Nuclear Concerns

"As the country debates whether or not to embark on a nuclear energy revival, we think it is incredibly important to look at the danger and pollution of mining and processing uranium, the first phase of the nuclear fuel cycle." Click [here](#) to view a short documentary on this controversial subject. Source: Environment Colorado

Audit Finds Vulnerability of Energy Star Program

According to the Washington (AP) – 15 phony products – including a gasoline-powered alarm clock – won a label from the government certifying them as energy efficient in a test of the federal "Energy Star" program. [More.](#)

Careers and Trainings

BPI Building Analyst Trainings:

HOME STAR legislation, scheduled to pass in June, will require BPI certification for auditors and home improvement contractors. 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 supplemented with online course material. Building Analyst 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. Registration for the June 7-11th class must be completed by Thursday April 22nd.
Call Michelle Asher today to register 303-914-6420

LEED Green Associate Exam Preparatory Class

\$295

The intention of the class is to prepare students for successful completion of the LEED Green Associate exam and instill fundamentals of sustainability concepts and practices. Contact the Rocky Mountain Education Center for class dates, details and registration at 303-914-6420.

Certified Passive House Consultants

In August of this year, the Passive House Institute, US will begin a series of classes to train building professionals in Passive House design techniques. This series of three 3-day long classes will start on August 12 and end in October. The goal of these classes is to enable participants to gain the knowledge necessary to become "Certified Passive House Consultants." The classes will be taught at the American Mountaineering Center in Golden. Details about the class can be obtained by following this link:

<http://www.passivehouse.us/passiveHouse/PHIUSConsultantsTraining.html>

The Wyoming Energy Council Board of Directors is seeking an Executive Director.

with strong business development skills as well as experience in effective management of operations to serve as Executive Director. Wyoming Energy Council, Inc. (WEC) is a national leading nonprofit organization focused on residential energy conservation and efficiency programs which addresses the whole house as well as building diagnostics. Click [here](#) for job details. Please pass along to anyone you think may be interested.

Utilities Partnering with Lightly Treading to Increase Education

Lightly Treading has partnered with the City of Fort Collins Utilities as well as Xcel Energy to offer low cost industry related trainings for improvement contractors participating in utility rebate programs. We are working together to increase the skill sets in the home improvement industry.

Upcoming Community Events

The Easter Seals Colorado, Rocky Mountain Village

Consists of 22 building dating in age from 2-70 years. They will be evaluating each building for energy efficiency and indoor air quality during Phase one. Phase two (April 16th and 17th) includes advanced air sealing and high-performance insulation. Phase three replaces inefficient mechanical systems with high-efficiency units. Phase four introduces passive and active renewable energy solutions throughout the Village. Pictures. We need energy auditors and those interested in energy audits. THEY need carpenters and those familiar with simple repair projects, insulation installers and folks willing to lend a hand. This phase of the project incorporates Advanced Air Sealing & Insulation work. RESNET & BPI BA energy professionals will learn what the next steps are after an energy audit and additional skills toward becoming a Home Performance Contractor. Website. RSVP.

Doors Open Denver

April 17 & 18; free

An annual celebration of Denver's built environment and design. 80-90 buildings will be open for viewing. [Details](#).

Rocky Mountain Green 2010

April 21-22, Denver Convention Center

Register by March 19th 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

CoSEIA Presents: Solar Thermal Design and Installation a 2-day Workshop with Paul Shippee

April 22-23: 8:30am – 5:00pm

REI Englewood: 9637 East County Line

This 2-day solar thermal workshop covers design and installation of solar heating and hot water systems. It is suitable for anyone preparing to enter the solar field or desiring to significantly upgrade their understanding, knowledge and skills for solar thermal applications. Visit their [website](#) for additional details and to [register](#).

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.

ClimateSmart Neighborhood Energy Sweep

April 24: 9:30 am- 2:30 pm; Longmont

Volunteers are needed for the 475 sweep on Saturday April 24 in Longmont. This is a door to door initiative that provides low and moderate income households with free installation of energy conservation and energy efficiency advice. To learn more or volunteer click [here](#).

EarthFest

April 25; 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Downtown Boulder in Central Park

Celebrating the 40th anniversary of Earth Day and greener living. Visit the official [website](#) for details on the day's activities including speakers, 5K

run/walk, musicians and more! The Center for Resource Conservation tent will be hosting a variety of speakers as well, click [here](#) to see a schedule. Lightly Treading's auditing partner Andy Mazal of Inhabit will be speaking at 12:25pm.

Boulder County Green Building Conference

April 26th; 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."

Green Jobs Pipeline for Women Coalition Meeting

April 28th; 8:30 am- 1:30pm

Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood

A gathering of government agencies, businesses, and nonprofit organizations to share information on current and upcoming green job initiatives, and create a plan of action around one or more success strategies that will help women obtain green job training and job opportunities. ([more..](#))

Efficiency First

April 29th – Denver, at Lightly Treading Office

4303 Brighton Blvd, Bldg.3; Denver

Enter off of Brighton Blvd at the sign for the Forney Museum. Continue driving around back of museum for building 3.

May 27th – Berthoud, at Energy Logic Office

USGBC Colorado First Monday Meetings

1st Monday of the Month; REI Denver; [details](#)

Guided Tour of Historical Crestmoor Park

May 22nd; 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

The tour is guided by Denver's Old House Society. Crestmoor Park is rich in architectural and historic information. Tickets cost \$10 each. [Registration](#) will begin April 15.

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

Boulder Green Building Guild: Product and Service Fair

June 5; Boulder Central Park; FREE

A great opportunity to meet local green businesses and find out what they have to offer. There will be an "Ask an Expert" booth for you to get the chance to talk to an expert about your various green questions.

2010 National Cohousing Conference

June 18-20; Boulder, CO

Early Bird Registration ends March 31st; 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.

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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