



The Ecovillage Experience!” greening up the 16th annual Akron Home & Flower Show with the newest green lifestyle trends

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Akron—“The Ecovillage Experience!” featuring a Passive House™ technologies from Germany is designed to make “living green” a whole lot easier to understand and embrace.

Follow the “green footprints” from concept to reality as visitors learn how to recycle, reuse and reduce in a prototype ecovillage slated to be built in the urban core within a few years with the most highly energy-efficient green home building elements and systems available in the U.S.

Chicken coops, greenroofs, rain barrels, beehives and solar panels are just a few of the fascinating elements found in the ecovillage. Interactive “ecoliving” learning stations on solar and wind energy, green building materials and furnishings, alternative transportation and community and rain garden landscapes will be hosted by sustainability entrepreneurs and officials sharing their expertise.

Ongoing ecoliving workshops and demonstrations adjacent to the ecovillage will include how to grow and prepare local and fresh foods, planning and financing for greenbuilding, implementing household composting and recycling and developing sustainable landscaping in your own backyard.

A festive global marketplace accented with fair trade goods, organic food samples and drum circles will heighten the experience of new and emerging green lifestyle trends.

“We are very pleased by the number of participants from both the public and private sectors—corporations, non-profits, entrepreneurs, educational institutions—coming together to present this unique exhibit to the public,” says Lance Schmidt, project manager for “The Ecovillage Experience!” Schmidt is president of F.G. Ayers, a leading greenbuilder based in Akron, president of the Homebuilders Association of Summit and Portage Counties and certified consultant of the Passive House™ Institute. “It’s the first important step in bringing a true sustainable home building and community building project to the urban core providing economic stimulus.”

Although no formal partners or sponsors are yet in place for the real ecovillage project, groundwork is being laid for key project components including site location, financing, educational outreach, workforce, landscaping and building products.

For more information, go to www.akrongreenhomebuilder.com/eco-village.

Current ecovillage exhibitors include:

- Homebuilders, FG Ayers, Akron
- Community Gardens, The Akron Cooperative, Akron
- Solar and geothermal heating, Jennings Heating & Cooling, Akron
- Passive House designs, HBA Architects, Akron
- Electrical energy controllers, KVAR Energy Systems, Wadsworth
- Engine fuel saver, RMT Energy Systems, Wadsworth
- Rain barrels, Water Pirates, Cleveland
- Green roof, Weston Solutions, Dayton
- Fair trade cultural arts goods, The Market Path, Akron
- Pervious pavers, Perrin Asphalt, Akron
- Recycled concrete aggregate, PK Crushing, Akron
- Foam insulation, Pure Seal, Gates Mills
- Cellulose insulation, R-tek, Barberton
- Air filtration and ventilators, Ultimate Air by Stirling Tech, Athens
- Recycled carpeting, WCCV Flooring, Cuyahoga Falls
- Chicken coop, Meyer Hatchery, Polk
- African drumming, Roland Jackson, Akron
- Energy Programs, ECOLink, Columbus
- Recycling of household materials, Dick’ll Do It, Akron
- Energy audits, Energy Pros, Richfield
- Rain Gardens, Summit County WCD, Cuyahoga Falls
- Vegan faire, VegaTerranean, Akron
- Beehives, Summit County Beekeepers Association, Hudson
- Healthy lifestyle, Shaw Jewish Community Center, Akron

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