e-co lab Contact

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Donations

As a local non-profit organization e-co lab is dependent on your support to provide its services to the low-income families of this community. Any kind of support will be very much appreciated. Financial support can be mailed to e-co lab's address, if you would like to donate your time or expertise to help building the home projects please contact the executive director directly.

(This brochure if sealed will serve as an envelope)

A Non-profit Organization

e-co lab is a Community Developer empowering Families to own environmentally friendly and super-energy efficient Homes

The Fairview House-under Construction 2006

Ecological Construction & highly energy efficient affordable Housing for sustainable Communities and a balanced Climate

for more information:
visit www.e-colab.org
About e-co lab

e-co lab is an Illinois non-profit organization promoting and researching sustainable and highly energy efficient building construction for the community. Its main interest is to empower low-income families to own and benefit from such homes.

We provide:

- Affordable homeownership program to build energy efficient homes for low to median income families offsetting costs through grants and donations
- Energy efficient home design and ecological construction technology consulting
- Workshops and Symposia to promote environmental design to the community, builders, contractors, and interested individuals
- Research to implement new technologies, testing, monitoring, and documentation of successfully built projects
- Quality assurance and energy standard testing

By promoting environmentally conscious design made available to lower incomes, and educating the public about the advantages and joy of healthy living with nature and its free energy sources (the sun), e-co lab promotes the health of the whole system - family, home, community and global climate.

Two guiding Design Principles

- All of our Design suggestions follow two main principles, one focusing on the energy consumption of a building under operation, the other focusing on the sustainable choice of building materials, components and construction methods.

1. Passive House Energy Standard:
   - Air tight and superinsulated construction resulting in less than 10% of comparable homes' heating and cooling energy use
   - Energy efficient balanced ventilation system with highly efficient (>80%) energy recovery
   - Maximized use of all available passive energy sources (passive solar gain, storage mass, compact design, optimized site location, catching rainwater, geothermal heat storage etc.)
   - Electricity demand reduced to 25% of comparable homes to be able to cover it mostly through renewable energy sources
   - Highly energy efficient appliances and lighting

2. cradle-to-cradle Design Principle (Waste is Food):
   - Use of non-toxic, preferably renewable materials with low embodied energy
   - Use of recycled materials and new materials that are either entirely decomposable or part of a closed loop technological cycle
   - Products or materials used have to perform ecologically, economically and socially

Ongoing and completed Projects

The Smith House, 2002-2003
a Passive House Prototype
206.5 Brady Lane
Urbana, IL 61802

The Fairview House under Construction
Sponsored by: City of Urbana
1005 W Fairview Ave
Urbana, IL 61801