

{ Flagstaff Green Builder }

Flagstaff Paints the Streets Green

By David Carpenter

Since 2004, the Coconino County Sustainable Building Program has certified close to 60 projects throughout Coconino County and the City of Flagstaff as sustainable buildings. Buildings must qualify through energy efficiency, material choices, innovation, and long-term impact on the environment. In honor of the Program's five year anniversary, the county held a Green Building Awards banquet at the Green Room in downtown Flagstaff on Nov. 14. The banquet was the Flagstaff finale to the 2009 annual United States Green Building Council's Green-build International Conference and Expo, held this year in Phoenix. "Green Streets" provided the opportunity for the green community to network, learn about the sustainable buildings currently going up in Coconino County and recognize some of 2009's most outstanding contributors.

Speakers at the event included Coconino County Supervisor Carl Taylor; Amanda Acheson with Coconino County's Sustainable Building Program; Kimberly Trotta with Kinney Construction Services; Justin Erickson, co-owner and president of E3 Energy; Ed Dunn, owner and president of Solar Design and Construction; Patrick Hurley, Chair of the Northern AZ Branch of the greater USGBC; and Rich Bowen, associate vice president for economic development from NAU's Office of the President. All of the speakers highlighted the importance of sustainability and how it affects us locally, nationally, and globally.

Six projects received awards at Saturday's event:

- Beyond Adobe and Doris Beran's adobe home, featuring passive solar, rain-water harvesting, low water fixtures and appliances, on-demand hot water, American Clay plasters, local custom cabinetry and recycled furnishings.
- Steve Posse and Jack Clark's affordable housing home, featuring passive solar, low flow water fixtures, Energy Star heating and appliances, sealed ductwork, and whole house ventilation equipment.
- Jim Graves and Aude Stang's Pine Canyon hybrid, high efficiency and high performance home.
- Winning an award for their outstand-

ing work in sustainable development, as well as their general contribution to the community, was local organization Coconino Youthbuild.

- Hilltop Gardens Condominiums. A partnership between Hope Construction and Jana, David and Jennifer Carpenter. Flagstaff's first high performance condominium home project, featuring Energy Star certification, solar electricity, rain water harvesting, high efficiency heating and hot water heating, advanced framing, and spray foam insulation.
- The Museum of Northern Arizona Easton Collection Center. Design/build team of Kinney Construction Services, and Roberts/Jones and Associates. The project featured locally-obtained materials and minimal site disturbance, proper solar orientation, high thermal mass walls, photovoltaic renewable energy, extensive insulation, energy efficient windows, heating and cooling systems, sustainable storm water technologies and water conserving plumbing systems. The Museum project was also named the "greenest" LEED building in the United States for 2009 by the United States Green Building Council.

The program's success and the growing trend towards building more sustainably can be seen all over Northern Arizona, from the NAU campus to rural Coconino County. We can now boast to have more LEED buildings per capita than any other city in the world, and the most sustainable building built in the United States this year. Both are achievements we can all be very proud of. **FBN**



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