



VirginiaTech

College of Natural Resources

Wood Science and Forest Products

Brooks Center (0503), 1650 Ramble Road

Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

540/231-9759 Fax: 540/231-8868

E-mail: buehlmann@gmail.com

www.woodscience.vt.edu

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

VIRGINIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION AND VIRGINIA TECH ANNOUNCE WORKSHOP ON GREEN HOME BUILDING

Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA – April 20, 2010. Virginia Cooperative Extension, the Department of Wood Science and Forest Products, College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech and the USDA Forest Service announce a workshop on “Green Home Building” to be held on May 11, 2010 at the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center (HEC) in South Boston, VA from 5:00pm to 8:30pm.

Green home building focuses on designing, constructing, and operating buildings in a resource efficient manner using ecologically based principles. Today, more and more homes are constructed using such ecologically based principles, making the market segment for green home building the fastest growing in a depressed construction industry. This workshop will provide homeowners, building construction specialists, managers, supervisors, entrepreneurs, educators, and government employees with a basic understanding of green building practices and green building certification systems. For parties interested, the workshop will also provide guidance for the next steps in assessing opportunities for implementing green building practices.

For more information on the *Green Home Building* workshop, visit <http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/green/> or contact Jason Fisher, Virginia Cooperative Extension Agent at (434) 476-2147, jasonf@vt.edu or Urs Buehlmann, Virginia Cooperative Extension and Department of Wood Science and Forest Products at (540) 231-9759, ubuehlm@vt.edu. This workshop will also be offered on May 10, 2010 in Eastern Virginia, and on July 15, 2010 in Northwestern Virginia.

The Department of Wood Science and Forest Products in the College of Natural Resources at Virginia Tech is the leading program in North America engaged in wood and renewable materials utilization. Faculties focus on

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the science and business of wood and bio-based materials through learning, discovery, and engagement. The department is home to the Center for Forest Products Marketing and Management, the Center for Unit Load Design, the Wood-Based Composites Center, the Sustainable Engineered Materials Institute, Lean@Virginia Tech, and the award winning Wood Magic Show for 4th and 5th grade children and their teachers. Through cooperation with the Department of Marketing in the Pamplin College of Business, the department co-directs the Alfred P. Sloan Forest Industries Center. The department is an active participant in the renewable materials research initiative in the Institute for Critical Technology and Applied Science (ICTAS). Students learn from the leading wood and renewable materials scientists in the world, who bring the latest science and application of principles to the classroom.