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Home Front Homes, LLC joins Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership

Sarasota County's Green Business Partnership has awarded its newest certification to Home Front Homes, LLC, an innovative home builder that uses a panelized construction system to create energy-efficient houses. The company, located at 512 Paul Morris Drive in Englewood, built the prototype "Katrina Cottage" that was designed by architects at the urban design and planning firm of Congress for New Urbanism member Andres Duane. The cottage was created as an alternative to FEMA trailers for victims of hurricanes and other natural disasters.

Brian Bishop, who serves as founder and chairman of the Sarasota Green Building Council, has developed a quick and easy way to build the shell of a residential or commercial building in only days, using three main components: the windframe, the wall panels and the roof panels. According to Sarasota County Recycling Coordinator Tom Franklin, the company has used the Green Business Partnership program as its guide for incorporating environmental improvements.

"They implemented energy conservation measures such as shading their air conditioning unit and changing to more efficient light bulbs," said Franklin. "They're handling their wastes more effectively and generally ensuring that they conduct their business in a manner that reflects the environmental benefits of their product they manufacture."

The Green Business Partnership was initiated under a Florida Department of Environmental Protection grant and is open to all businesses in Sarasota County that implement required resource conservation measures and pass an on-site certification assessment. Each certified business receives a Green Business Partnership certificate and seal they can display to demonstrate their commitment to a healthy environment. They also receive an electronic logo that can be used on company stationary and promotional items.

Home Front Homes LLC is listed in a Green Business Partnership directory that is available online at the Green Business Web site, www.scgov.net/greenbusiness.

The Green Business Partnership is actively seeking other participants. For more information, or to request a Green Business Partnership packet, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask to speak with the county's Recycling Coordinator.

For more information on the businesses currently certified under the program, visit www.scgov.net/greenbusiness and click on the link entitled, "Participating Businesses."

Media note: A JPEG image of the Green Business Partnership logo is attached.

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