

WHY BUILD GREEN?

A Presentation for You and Your Community



Citizens' Environmental Coalition has released its long awaited Green Building Guide and Statewide Outreach Initiative to help consumers weigh the various environmental and health concerns when it comes to planning, building, renovating, and redecorating homes. It is a tool for people thinking about green building – not only for the environment, but for the health and safety of their families.

CEC is New York's leading environmental health Organization and was founded in 1983 by community activists organizing to clean up toxic sites. It has grown into a coalition of over 100 community, labor, health and environmental groups and thousands of individual members.

The presentation will present the reasons people build green, our advocacy efforts on the state level to promote green building policies, and an interactive discussion of the decision making process when deciding to green your home. A brief presentation on the health effects of toxic building materials will also be given as well as overview of NY State financial incentive programs

There will be a Q&A after the presentation and copies of the green building guide will be available.

Presenter Sabrina Wells, Environmental Program Associate and Green Building Coordinator for CEC, has broad experience in environmental advocacy and non profit work. Her commitment to environmental and social justice has shaped her career and educational choices and she has long advocated for policy changes that address pollution, climate change, and water quality issues. Sabrina has several years of non-profit experience, including two years as the Watchdog program coordinator at the Hudson Riverkeeper, where she trained volunteers and investigated water pollution cases. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in environmental policy from Prescott College in Arizona and is pursuing a Master of Arts in Environmental Public Policy. Her research has included international environmental justice, climate change, and Latin American studies.

Sabrina is originally from the Appalachian region of Virginia and the Carolina's. She has traveled and studied extensively in Latin America, including Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Mexico where she delved into experiential learning theories in conservation, social issues and political systems. Sabrina is a 2008 Fellow for Women and Public Policy through the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society. During her fellowship she worked at the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation in the General Counsel's office where she researched and completed projects on the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and environmental justice.

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