Buccaneer Ridge Phase Three Housing

Phase 3 of Buccaneer Ridge Housing Development will open in mid-August 2010. With 56 two-bedroom apartments, this building is the first to be constructed at ETSU under the newly approved TBR Sustainable Building Guidelines and is 40% more efficient than similar sized apartments at earlier Buccaneer Ridge buildings. The TBR Guidelines are based on the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) rating system. Both the TBR and LEED systems are intended to provide building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

Some of the specific sustainability highlights for this building include:

• Energy efficient elevator that operates on 15 amps at 240 volts
• Centiva flooring – High recycle content and No wax needed for maintenance of floors.
• Fluorescent lighting throughout building with a transom added to provide natural daylighting.
• Low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) paint used in all apartments.
• Energy Star appliances (refrigerator, dishwasher, washing machine)
• 1.4 gallon assisted flush commodes to reduce water consumption
• Variable refrigerant HVAC systems with thermostats set to limited temperature ranges. This HVAC system is 18% more efficient than a high efficiency electric heat pump.
• Permeable Pavement, retention ponds, and a bioswale to reduce stormwater runoff from the site.
• New walking path in the area linking building to other parts of Buccaneer Ridge.
• On-site bike racks.
• Drop-off location for campus transit system.
• Native and drought-tolerant plants used in landscaping to reduce water use.
• On-site recycling

ETSU Community Garden

The Community Garden is growing and open to ETSU faculty, staff and students. Everyone is welcome to come and be involved. The garden is located in the Buccaneer Village Housing area off Pirate Cove Lane. Contact Lance Lewis at ETSUCommunityGarden@activistl.com if you are interested in participating in the Community Garden.
Health & Safety: Indoor Air Pollution

Many sources of indoor air pollution can be found in any home or office building. Various building materials, furnishings, and products like air fresheners and candles are frequent sources of indoor pollution. These pollutants can result in a variety of health effects depending on the amount and length of exposure and the potency of the pollutant. Common immediate health effects are similar to those experienced during a cold and other viral diseases. Long-term health effects, which may show up years after exposure, can include some respiratory diseases, heart diseases, and cancer. It is important to improve indoor air quality, even when the symptoms are not noticeable. The most effective way to improve the air quality is to eliminate or reduce the pollutants.

If you haven’t had your house tested for Radon, you may want to have this completed. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer. When painting, choose low VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) paint. Choose carpets and furniture that haven’t been treated with chemicals (ie, benzene and formaldehyde) that are known pollutants. Choose natural materials – bamboo, leather, tile, organic cotton, etc. A durable wood or composite style of flooring is also another good alternative to keep down allergens.

Little Buccaneers Student Child Care Center earns the 2010 Boone Watershed Aquatic Stewardship Award

For the last three years, Little Buccaneers Student Childcare Center has participated in the Green Schools Program as part of the State of Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership (TP3) Program. Green Schools involve students in campus and community projects that reduce waste, conserve energy and water, decrease hazardous chemicals, improve air quality, and create wildlife habitat. There are four (4) different levels in the TP3 program and Little Buccaneers is progressing quickly toward completion of Partnership Level. At this third level, they are required to complete five projects that will prevent pollution of the land, air, and water while conserving natural resources. The third of these projects just earned the Childcare Center the 2010 Boone Watershed Aquatic Stewardship Award for the category of Higher Education. The recognized project for this award is a rain water collection barrel for use in their noncertified organic garden. Micky Morton, the project coordinator, states that “Rain harvesting is critical to teaching young children how to manage and conserve water as well as capture as much rain as possible in order to reduce the monthly water bills for the school. We use our math skills to measure how much water we collect each day and practice our sustainability skills in the watering method so each child can become better stewards of our Earth.”

A NASA study revealed that plants are excellent at removing indoor air pollutants like formaldehyde, benzene, and carbon monoxide.

The 10 most effective plants are:

- Bamboo Palm – Chamaedorea seifrizii
- Chinese Evergreen - Aglaonema modestum
- English Ivy - Hedera helix
- Gerbera Daisy - Gerbera jamesonii
- Janet Craig - Dracaena “Janet Craig”
- Marginata - Dracaena marginata
- Corn Plant - Dracaena massangeana
- Mother-in-Law’s Tongue- Sansevieria laurentii
- Pot Mum – Chrysanthemum morifolium
- Peace Lily – Spathiphyllum sp.

We would like to hear from you! If you have an announcement, or ideas about sustainability on campus, let us know.

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