



DIG

(Do It Green)
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NORTH CENTRAL FLORIDA'S
GREEN HOME SUPPLY STORE

INDIGO
GREEN SOLUTIONS FOR A HEALTHY HOME

EARTH DAY FLOORING SALE: RECYCLED CONTENT CARPETS

ShawMark Anything Goes! Green line is now on sale starting at \$3.17 sq ft. These made-in-the-U.S.A. carpets have post-consumer recycled nylon-6 and are recyclable. They received the highest marks for indoor air quality from the Carpet & Rug Institute, all while providing unequalled protection against soiling and liquid spills. Furthermore, and most importantly, they have –through the use of recycled content nylon- eliminated the use of Brominated Fire Retardants (BFR's), the neurotoxin that some manufacturers still put on their carpets. ShawMark carpets also come with a 15 year quality assurance warranty against manufacturing defects, crush resistance, stain resistance and wrinkles. Click [here](#) to learn more about this carpet.



HOUSEHOLD GREEN TIP: ONE WORD - AERATE

Do you still have a shower head that is using 3 gallons of water per minute (gpm)? Does your faucet use 2.5 gpm? Here is a cheap and easy way to conserve energy from that all-consuming hot water tank, and can save you money on your water and wastewater bill as well: aerators regulate and reduce the amount of water used through the nozzle while still maintaining pressure. With simple technology and about \$75 you could replace your shower head and all of your faucet nozzles (those little round heads on the end of your faucets) and reduce your water consumption from 40% in showers and up to 70% in your bathroom sinks. New showerheads can get your gpm down to 1.5 (even 1gpm), while bathroom faucets can bring it down to 0.5gpm. Come check out our selection of water saving devices--we are constantly getting more stock in with the help of our friends at [Drops and Watts](#).

CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT: LEVEDA BROWN ENVIRONMENTAL PARK AND TRANSFER STATION

Alachua County's Leveda Brown Environmental Park and Transfer Station introduced their first solar photovoltaic project that will take advantage of GRU's newly introduced solar feed-in-tariff. Not only was this the first solar voltaic project that our county's trash and recycling center was involved in, the project includes an educational display on the topic of solar power, built out of eco-friendly lumber -Timbersil- sourced from INDIGO. The county looked for a sustainable alternative to pressure-treated lumber (which is normally infused with copper) that is toxic to aquatic life when it leaches. Timbersil is not treated with heavy metals but is instead infused through pressure and heat with silica (essentially glass) to make it inedible to wood-destrorying organisms including mold and insects. For more information on the Leveda Brown project, the energy produced by the new solar array, as well as the CO2 reduced, and the revenue earned by the array, click [here](#).

LOCAL: SO YOU WANT TO GO SOLAR DO YA? SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT FROM PURE ENERGY SOLAR

Gainesville has seen a gold rush in terms of the stampede towards solar in recent weeks. With the three tiers of incentives, the return on investment has caught the attention of many investors. Unlike California, which has a long history of solar programs, Florida is lacking in some of the front-end consumer safe guards. Therefore consumers need to be more educated when dealing with companies selling solar equipment and providing solar system installation services. [Read On...](#)

LOCAL: EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE

Are you ready for a challenge? With the "2009 Eat Local Challenge" beginning May 1st, it's time to move beyond the "whys" of eating local to the "hows" of being a locavore. The challenge is to eat local, seasonal foods, at home or at locally-owned restaurants, every day for the entire month of May. Participants may track their eating to be eligible for prizes at a Community Celebration on May 31st. Registration is now open and continues through April 30th, with online registration available at www.hogtownhomegrown.com

LOCAL: CEMENT PLANT WANTS TO BURN YOUR OLD CAR SEATS

Suwannee American Cement (SAC) plant near the Ichneetucknee River (an Outstanding Florida Water) has filed a Notice of Application to test-burn Auto Shredder Residue (ASR), also known as auto shredder fluff, in Kiln #1. ("Auto shredder fluff" is sliced, diced, minced and shredded foam and plastic from the passenger compartments of cars and trucks including the seats, dashboards and liners.) The state of California considers auto fluff a hazardous waste requiring special disposal, and there have been studies by the German EPA and the U.S. EPA report that auto fluff contains mercury, lead, cadmium, chromium, arsenic, polyvinyl chloride and PCBs. It has been documented that the public was promised that toxics, plastics and heavy metals would never be burned in these kilns. The burning of toxic waste materials will ultimately increase emissions of dioxins and other air toxics, like heavy metals, poly vinyl chloride, including lead and mercury into our air. Emission calculations have not been submitted with this application, and we encourage Alachua County residents to call the local Department of Environmental Protection to inquire about this request. Read the application here: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/Air/permitting/construction/Suwannee/Application1.pdf>

STATE: LET (F)IT SHINE

Electricians, roofers, engineers, and solar installers could all find more work if Florida could add between 57,000 - 114,000 solar jobs to the state with a strong Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS). Right now, Gainesville is making solar waves with GRU's new Feed-In-Tariff (FIT) for new solar projects with hopes to be a model for green jobs and sustainability for the rest of the sunshine state. The FIT has experienced an onslaught of interest and has already reached its 4 mega-watt capacity for 2009 with applicants and their solar projects. Find out more about the Feed-In-Tariff at <http://www.gru.com/OurEnvironment/GreenEnergy/solar.jsp>. Find out more information on how you can bring more solar jobs to the sunshine state: <http://www.votesolar.org/florida.html>

NATIONAL: WHITE HOUSE VEGGIE GARDEN



Organic veggies on the White House lawn? Heck yeah! A vegetable garden on the White House lawn has not been seen since Eleanor Roosevelt's planted a victory garden in WWII, much less an organic one. Congrats to the foodies who pressed for this kind of thing for years, to the White House cooks and to Michelle Obama, hosted this moment. With national seed sales up and more farmers markets everywhere, we seem to be headed in these less-than-ideal economic times for an encounter with the victory gardens of our past. A green victory garden that sustains it's culture is not only symbolic, it is a solution to the problem that our food travels on average, 1,500 miles before it gets to our plate. Read more: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/20/dining/20garden.html>

STORIES OF THE MONTH

Be patriotic. Stimulate your local economy: http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/03/eco-patriotism-stimulating-local-economy.php?dcitc=daily_nl

Responsible shop till you drop: <http://www.greenamericatoday.org/programs/responsibleshopper/>

Awash in Styrofoam: <http://www.montrealgazette.com/Life/Styrofoam%20dilemma/1362761/story.html>

Green Building in Portland takes on 'feebates': <http://greensource.construction.com/news/2009/090223Portland.asp>

Green Bank Of America: <http://www.greenerbuildings.com/news/2009/03/25/us-green-bank-proposed>

Green (chocolate) eggs for Easter: Tell Cadbury Fair Trade Chocolate Is Better:

<http://www.greenamericatoday.org/takeaction/cadbury/>

Green Purchasing faster than the law: http://www.healthybuilding.net/news/090324dyk2_green_purchasing.html

EPA Halts Mountaintop Removal For Coal: <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/03/24/national/main4889433.shtml>

FAVORITE WEBSITES OF THE MONTH

Great Gainesville Blog Site on living locally:
<http://www.ourlocallife.com/>

Check out this source for green news and information!
<http://blog.cleanenergy.org/>

Buy sell trade your homegrowns:
<http://www.veggitrader.com>



Write to advertising@indigogreenstore.com to receive a media kit with information on advertising with INDIGO.

INDIGO WORKSHOPS

DO YOU NEED AN ENERGY AUDIT?, APRIL 11, 10AM - 12PM

Discover if you need a professional energy audit. The tools for cost-effective, energy efficient housing exist now. An energy efficient home is one that is safe, durable, comfortable and healthy. Meet a RESNET (Residential Energy Services Network) energy rater and see if you need an audit or just some building science advice. Arunas Kutkus (License #847) is a Class 1 Florida Energy Auditor and will answer questions about the energy audit process. You will also see what is involved in an energy audit. Class size is unlimited and free but please RSVP to: educationdept@indigogreenstore.com.

EAT LOCAL CHALLENGE: LOCAVORE 102 (WITH REAL FOOD!), APRIL 11, 1PM - 3PM

Are you ready to challenge yourself? With the "2009 Eat Local Challenge" beginning May 1st, it's time to move beyond the "whys" of eating local to the "hows" of being a locavore. Join Stefanie Samara Hamblen, owner of Hogtown Home-Grown, the newsletter and website devoted to local and seasonal recipes and menus, as she gives practical ideas for eating local, recipe and menu suggestions, and cooking tips too. This will be a "hands-on" class, so bring something fresh from the farmers market to create a "stone soup" meal of local food that the class will share. If you really want to test Stefanie, bring in the most unusual, local, seasonal produce you can find for "Stump the Cook" – hopefully she'll send you home with a recipe! Due to the "hands-on" nature of Locavore 102, the class will be limited to 18 participants – so sign up now to guarantee your place at the table! There will be a \$5 charge to cover food costs. Please RSVP to: educationdept@indigogreenstore.com.

EDIBLE AND MEDICINAL PLANT WORKSHOP, APRIL 25, 10AM - 12PM

Have you wondered which plants in your backyard are edible or medicinal? Who would have thought that we are walking over food and medicine every day? Led by Susan Marynowski, who holds an M.S. in ecology and has been a student and practitioner of herbal medicine for nearly 20 years, this class will include a stroll to see some edible and medicinal weeds in downtown Gainesville. Late winter and early spring are particularly bountiful times for edible greens in Florida, so come on out and see nature's smorgasbord. Tastings will demonstrate that these flavorful, mineral-rich plants can take an important part in your everyday diet! Handouts will be provided. Class is unlimited and free but please RSVP to: educationdept@indigogreenstore.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP, APRIL 11

Our local 2009 Great American Cleanup is expanding to TWO locations this year, to accommodate volunteers from all areas of Gainesville and Alachua County. Come out, volunteer to help clean up our beautiful community, and join the party afterwards! 8 AM - 11 AM -- The sites for registration, tool/supply pickup and breakfast on the morning of April 11th are: The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center on Waldo Road & NE 8th Avenue (directly behind Citizen's Field) and Westside Park, corner of NW 34th Street and NW 8th Avenue. 11 AM - 5 PM -- the after-cleanup celebration, tool/supply drop-off, and the Environmental Education Fair - including lunch - will ONLY be held at The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center.

ALACHUA COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE'S ANNUAL CANNING WORKSHOPS, APRIL 14TH-MAY 12TH

Topics include pressure canning, boiling water canning, jams and jellies. The classes are presented by Brenda Williams of the Alachua County Extension Office and Muriel Turner of the Levy County Extension Office. There is a \$3.00 charge for materials, collected at the door. Seating is limited. Please call the desired location to register. The workshops are at the following locations:

Tuesday, April 14, 2009, at 6 p.m. Alachua County Extension Office, 2800 NE 39th Avenue, Gainesville. Call 352-955-2402 to register.

Tuesday, April 21, 2009, at 2 p.m. & 6 p.m. Gilchrist County Library, 105 NE 11th Avenue, Trenton. Call 352-463-3174 to register.

Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 6 p.m. Levy County Extension Office, 625 N Hathaway Avenue, Bronson. Call 352-486-5131 to register.

Thursday, April 30, 2009, at 6 p.m. High Springs Library, 135 NW 1st Avenue, High Springs. Call 352-955-2402 to register.

Monday, May 12, 2009. 2p.m. & 6 p.m. Dixie County Library, 16328 SE Hwy. 19, Cross City. Call 352-498-1219 to register.

SPRING CONCERT FOR CITIZEN'S CO-OP, APRIL 25

Help us celebrate Earth Day and the bounties of spring! Come and enjoy music, food, beer, with local businesses and all interested. Contact citizenscoop@gmail.com if you'd like to be involved. Event will be held at The Garden, 1006 NE 12th Ave 2-10PM.

CITIZEN'S CO-OP YARD SALE, MAY 2

Start your spring cleaning now and prepare to donate any unused household items, clothing, books, etc. to the cause! Drop off-days to be announced.

GREEN DRINKS! FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

Gainesville Green Drinks will provide a meeting place for those interested in or involved with environmental issues to learn about one another's programs and how they might work together. Come share news about your green project, or something like you'd like to see here in the Greater Gainesville area. The meeting is open to anyone interested in environmental issues – bring your friends! 5-7 pm at the New Deal Cafe Contact: rileysteele@gogreenalternatives.com

TAKE A TOUR OF ALACHUA COUNTIES FIRST EVER LEED PLATINUM HOME AT BRYTAN WITH DAVID MELVILLE CONTRACTING SERVICES, INC.

Join us at 10am on the days below to follow the construction of Gainesville's first LEED Platinum home. We will be touring the job site and learning about saving energy, conserving water, indoor air quality, building for durability, making responsible product choices and sustainable design while we watch this carefully crafted home rise from foundation to completion. April 4, 2009; May 2, 2009; June 2, 2009; July 11, 2009; August 1, 2009; September 12, 2009. At the intersection of SW Archer Rd and Tower Rd, turn south into Brytan. Continue along the main street (SW 75th St) and then turn left onto SW 74th Drive. The construction site is on the right side facing the circular street surrounding the green space.



THINK ABOUT YOUR IMPACT.
BUILD GREEN