



JOB CORPS'

R&R Field Report

Aiding in America's Recovery and Reinvesting in Our Future



ARRA E-Newsletter Volume 19

From the National Office of Job Corps

Dear Job Corps Staff,

In this edition of the R&R Field Report, we feature the Shreveport Job Corps Center's premier green home. Students took an unused shed on campus and converted it into a model green home. Built entirely out of green materials, the project involved students from four different career training areas. The project is already drawing attention from outside of the center, as several groups from the community have come for tours.

Penobscot Facilities Maintenance students are taking the initiative to come up with new green solutions for their center. Students have constructed a garage with solar lighting that will house the center's new electric vehicles. They have also renovated bathrooms to make them more energy-efficient and learned how to repair and use the center's new hybrid riding lawnmower.

I had the pleasure of sharing some of Job Corps' best green practices at a recent GreenGov Symposium hosted by The George Washington University. I was honored to be able to represent Job Corps and discuss how we are using our Recovery Act funds to improve our centers and local communities and enhance our training programs. The details about my experience at the symposium are included in the first spotlight.

As work continues on ARRA projects on your centers, please remember to share your success stories and progress by e-mailing information to ojc.arra@dol.gov and uploading photos to www.greensnap.org. Thanks again for everyone's commitment to all ARRA initiatives.

Sincerely,

Edna Primrose
National Director

This issue marks the first of what will now be monthly issues of the R&R Field Report.

Job Corps' National Director Speaks at White House Council Symposium



National Director Edna Primrose discusses Job Corps' ARRA initiatives at the GreenGov Symposium at The George Washington University.

Job Corps National Director Edna Primrose served as an ambassador and spokeswoman for the Department of Labor at the White House Council on Environmental Quality's GreenGov Symposium in Washington, D.C.

Primrose was joined by Charlotte Hayes, Senior Sustainability Officer and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy at the Dept. of Labor, members of the Job Corps "green team," and students from Woodstock Job Corps Center in Woodstock, Md., to speak about how Job Corps' green training programs are equipping students with the education and skills they need to obtain a successful green career and, ultimately, develop a greener economy for the



Extreme Makeover: Shreveport Job Corps Center Edition

When it comes to understanding new green industries and technologies, nothing beats hands-on experience. That is the idea behind one of the Shreveport Job Corps Center's biggest ARRA-funded projects – the “premier green home.”

Instructors saw an opportunity to take advantage of an old shed on campus that had been unused for years, and turn it into a home that the entire campus could take part in building. It became known as the premier green home because it was built entirely out of green materials and involved four career training areas – carpentry, painting, welding, and Home Builders Institute (HBI).



Shreveport HBI students take a break from their construction work on the center's green home to pose for a picture.

This project not only gave valuable experience to students, but allowed the center to work with several local contractors, providing welcomed business to these companies and establishing relationships that will benefit students and the center in the future.

“The premier green home is essentially one big instructional project,” said Steven Ingle, Shreveport Job Corps Center Team Manager. “It is a great way to provide hands-on training to students and teach them about important green technologies they will need to know when they graduate and start looking for jobs.”

The premier green home is laid out like a traditional home, but a closer look reveals the materials and technologies used aren't traditional at all.

Locally manufactured bald cypress, pine, and cedar wood was used throughout the home. Bamboo, which has a high insulation value, was installed on walls by the Carpentry and HBI students.

The home's bathroom has an innovative graywater system, which recycles water used on the chillers in the building next door and from the gutter system, allowing the toilet to operate using no water from the city water system. The bathroom also has a waterless urinal, which uses no water at all. The pipes are made of PVC and copper, which are recyclable materials, and the low-flow aerators on showerheads and fixtures are the most energy-efficient available on the market. The bathroom also includes a vintage clawfoot tub, which was purchased for welding students to refurbish. To see a video of a local

country.

“Job Corps has seized the Recovery Act opportunity to fund many more hands-on student training projects that are center- and community-based, and that emphasize the use of green resources and practices – like the installation of rainwater capture systems, water-efficient plumbing, recycling stations, and greenhouses and organic gardens,” Primrose said. “Job Corps students are involved in the installation of these projects, and in the process, they not only acquire technical skills but learn more broadly about environmental stewardship, green living, and how individual actions have larger impacts.”

Primrose also noted that, “Job Corps is working strategically to leverage all of these efforts and more, in order to optimize learning and employment opportunities for its students. That's what it's all about for us.”

Held Oct. 5-7, the GreenGov Symposium was hosted by The George Washington University. The 3-day educational event invited government, nonprofit, academic, and private-sector leaders to identify opportunities and best practices for “greening” the federal government. Other topics of discussion included clean energy, water efficiency, achieving zero waste, greening the supply chain, and sustainable communities.

[See more photos.](#)

Penobscot Students Inspire a New Environmental Attitude on Center

plumbing contractor discussing working on the green home's bathroom, [click here](#).

Topping off the premier green home is a bedroom furnished with a bed that welding students made from old iron fencing that was taken down at the center. Welding students also built the table and chairs located in the dining room.

"This project taught me how to reuse items that you already have, but might not realize you can use again," Welding student Jerry Walker said. "It is very important to learn to reuse things so that you won't be throwing away your money or creating unnecessary waste."

Low-wattage, energy-efficient zone heating and cooling systems were installed throughout the house. These units, which run on timers, cool or heat only the specific room in which they are located, which saves money on electrical costs.

To provide energy to the premier green home, the center took advantage of another ARRA-funded project on center. Energy generated from the solar panels that were installed on the academic building across the street is transported to the green home via an electrical wire. From there the energy is put into the power grid, which supplies power to the green home.

Because of the innovative green technologies that were used on the premier green home, it uses half the energy of a traditional home of the same size.

Now that construction is finished on the premier green home, it will be used for training and educating future students and community members. A group of local veterans recently visited the home to learn how to make their own homes more energy-efficient. The center also plans to include more green technologies in the house as they become available.

[See more photos.](#)



... 98 ... 99 ... **100% Outlaid!**

Congratulations to the following centers which have outlaid 100 percent of their ARRA funds. Keep up the good work!

Boston Region

Cassadaga Job Corps Center
Exeter Job Corps Center
Glenmont Job Corps Center
Grafton Job Corps Center
Hartford Job Corps Center
Iroquois Job Corps Center
New Haven Job Corps Center
Northlands Job Corps Center
Penobscot Job Corps Center
Shriver Job Corps Center
Westover Job Corps Center

Philadelphia Region

Blue Ridge Job Corps Center
Charleston Job Corps Center
Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center
Keystone Job Corps Center

Dallas Region

Albuquerque Job Corps Center
Carville Job Corps Center
Guthrie Job Corps Center
Kicking Horse Job Corps Center
Laredo Job Corps Center
Little Rock Job Corps Center
North Texas Job Corps Center
Quentin N. Burdick Job Corps Center
Shreveport Job Corps Center
Tulsa Job Corps Center

Chicago Region

Atterbury Job Corps Center
Cincinnati Job Corps Center
Cleveland Job Corps Center
Denison Job Corps Center
Flint/Genesee Job Corps Center



A Career Preparation Period (CPP) instructor at Penobscot shows two of his students one of the community gardens on campus where students are able to learn about the center's green culture.

Facilities Maintenance students at the Penobscot Job Corps Center are paving the way for a greener center culture. Inspired by new skills learned during their training, the students have taken the initiative to expand the center's environmental practices to other aspects of campus life.

For starters – the students are incorporating energy-saving features to a garage that will house new electric vehicles for the center. They installed low-flow toilets and automatic water faucets in the center's bathrooms, learned how to operate a hybrid lawnmower, and even built a second community garden.

"Introducing energy-efficient products to the students is extremely important for their training," John Dionne, the center's Facilities Maintenance director, said. "They're going to be part of a changing workforce that will need to know the alternative resources that are available in their field."

Center staff said the enthusiasm exhibited by the Facilities Maintenance students is spreading. When Stephanie Taylor was inspired to create a community garden, many other students pitched in to help with the project.

In just two days, the resulting garden was built and planted with flowers, herbs, pumpkins,

Muhlenberg Job Corps Center
Old Dominion Job Corps Center
Philadelphia Job Corps Center
Red Rock Job Corps Center
Woodland Job Corps Center
Woodstock Job Corps Center

Atlanta Region

Atlanta Job Corps Center
Dr. Benjamin L. Hooks Job Corps Center
Brunswick Job Corps Center
Finch-Henry Job Corps Center
Gadsden Job Corps Center
Gulfport Job Corps Center
Homestead Job Corps Center
Jacksonville Job Corps Center
Mississippi Job Corps Center
Montgomery Job Corps Center

Gerald R. Ford Job Corps Center
Paul Simon Chicago Job Corps Center
St. Louis Job Corps Center

San Francisco Region

Cascades Job Corps Center
Inland Empire Job Corps Center
Long Beach Job Corps Center
Los Angeles Job Corps Center
Phoenix Job Corps Center
San Jose Job Corps Center

and even blueberries. “Instead of spending money on herbs and vegetables from outside the center, the Culinary Arts students can get homegrown ingredients,” Taylor said. “Everything is as fresh, healthy, and eco-friendly as possible.”

Taylor’s community garden features hemlock flower boxes painted with an eco-friendly waterproof stain. A new rain barrel has also been installed nearby to help with irrigation.

“Every little bit counts,” said Sam Conley, a student who helped with the construction of the garden.

To learn more about Penobscot’s green center projects, watch this [video](#).

To see more photos of Facilities Maintenance students participating in green training around campus, [click here](#).

Administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, Job Corps is the nation's largest career technical training and education program for students ages 16 through 24. Job Corps is a U.S. Department of Labor Equal Opportunity Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. TDD/TTY telephone number is (877) 889-5627.