



# U.S. Green Building Council Iowa Chapter Newsletter

APRIL 2011

www.usgbc Iowa.org

## UPCOMING SUSTAINABLE EVENTS

### APRIL

- 13 - Luncheon Learn: Re-purposing Urban Space  
~ 11:30 p.m.—1:00 p.m.  
~ Greater Des Moines Partnership
- 17 - Earth Day in the Junction  
~ [www.earthdayinthejunction.com](http://www.earthdayinthejunction.com)
- 19 & 20 - The Northern Plains & Rocky Mtn. Consortium & Conference  
~ Renaissance Savery Hotel
- 20 - Monthly Program & Lunch  
~ 11:30 p.m.—1:30 p.m.  
~ Des Moines Botanical Center
- 22 - Earth Day - [Trash Bash 2011](#)
- 26 & 27 - The Iowa Wind Energy Association 2011 Conference  
~ Polk County Convention Complex
- 28 - GreenDrinks  
~ 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.  
~ Gateway Market Cafe

## Earth Day April 22, 2011

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Earth Day is a relatively new holiday and was first celebrated on April 22 in 1970. More than 20 million Americans participated in this first Earth Day celebration.
- Earth Day was founded by a senator of Wisconsin and the day is credited for creating the environmentalism movement.

### USGBC Iowa Chapter Monthly Program & Lunch:

**Benefits and Best Use Practices of Compost Applications** will be presented by Peter Klaich, Director, Sustainability & Business Development Chamness Technology and Vice President of Green R U another Chamness Technology, Inc. Peter has also served on the Board of Directors of the US Composting Council. Sustainability

and BMP of the use and different blends of compost are becoming the norm for the specifications of a wide myriad of applications. Peter will speak in detail to the proper use, applications and blends of compost. There will also be a question and answer session at the end of his presentation.

### APRIL PROGRAM:

**When:** Wednesday, April 20  
11:30 a.m. - 1:130 p.m.

**Where:** Des Moines Botanical Center  
Des Moines, IA 50316

**Registration:** \$5 - \$30 based on membership status and lunch option.

To register, [click here](#) OR log onto [www.usgbc Iowa.org](http://www.usgbc Iowa.org).

*NOTE: Registration closes April 17*

### The Northern Plains & Rocky Mountain Consortium: Researching the Green Economy Conference

"Going green" is transforming daily life at the local, national and global levels. For environmental protection, national security, job creation and other reasons, the world is evolving within and toward a greener economy. While green activities can easily

be found anywhere, determining the workforce ramifications is a much more complicated undertaking. While it's clear that green jobs are becoming a vital part of the American economic landscape, it sometimes seems there are more questions than

answers about the impact of new technologies. For more information and to register, visit [www.regonline.com/greenjobsconference](http://www.regonline.com/greenjobsconference)

**Des Moines, IA  
Renaissance Savery Hotel  
April 19—20, 2011**

For a complete list of upcoming events and more information, visit the Iowa USGBC website, [Calendar of Events](#).

Submit events to [usgbc Iowa news@gmail.com](mailto:usgbc Iowa news@gmail.com)

## Iowa's Newest LEED-certified Buildings

### Aviva – January 5, 2011

Aviva USA's new headquarters has become the largest LEED Gold certified building in Iowa and one of only five its size or larger in America to achieve that designation. Aviva USA is part of Aviva plc, the world's sixth-largest insurance group and the first global insurance company to become carbon-neutral. Aviva's project becomes the 24th LEED Gold building in Iowa and only the fourth in metropolitan Des Moines. For the full press release go to <http://www.aviva.com/media/news/9300/>.

### Polk County River Place – January 11, 2011

In January, The Polk County Board of Supervisors announced that the Polk County River Place Project was certified to the LEED® Silver level. The LEED certified project, achieves the highest ranking by a public entity in Polk County. Polk County River Place is the former retail property that Polk County purchased in January 2006, with the intent to relocate various county functions from leased space and consolidate them into one county-owned facility to improve the delivery of services to the public. The facility is home to a total of 350 workers, 290 of which are county employees, and varied county functions. The Iowa Department of Transportation opened its driver's license satellite location at the complex in June of 2007. For the full press release go to <http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/supervisors/pages/news.aspx#rpleed>.

### American Institute of Architects, Iowa Chapter (AIA Iowa) – February 10, 2011

AIA is proud to announce that their office has achieved U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) LEED-CI Platinum Certification! This is the first LEED Platinum project in the State of Iowa. The AIA Iowa Office is a 2,300 square foot office. The space, located in a highly visible first floor space in Capital Square, has extensive day-lighting and greater public visibility for AIA Iowa, its programs and the architecture profession it serves. Since AIA Iowa needs the facility to function as a work space and as a hub for meetings, social events and educational/promotional events, the design team created a flexible, translucent and spacious environment, which in turn also meets the client's sustainability goals. For the full press release go to <http://www.aiaiowa.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=32>

### Wellmark – March 14, 2011

Wellmark's corporate headquarters in Des Moines has received LEED® Platinum certification from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), which makes it the only LEED Platinum certified office building of its size in the world. "Wellmark's headquarters is a great example of how businesses and the city can work together to create a win for the entire community," says Des Moines Mayor Frank Cownie. "We're pleased Wellmark chose to stay in downtown Des Moines, and thrilled their facility has achieved the highest environmental standards. " For the full press release go to <http://www.wellmark.com/AboutWellmark/Newsroom/Releases/20110314LEEDPlatinum.aspx>

*Is your building LEED-certified? Or do you know about a LEED-certified building that you would like to feature in the USGBC newsletter? Let us know by emailing the information to [usgbcianews@gmail.com](mailto:usgbcianews@gmail.com).*

### More great news from QA Graphics:

Ankeny Design Firm Helps Dubuque's Roshek Building Promote Sustainable Awareness - [March 7, 2011 press release](#)

Eastern Mennonite University uses QA Graphics' Dashboard for Sustainable Education - [March 14, 2011 press release](#)

Send us your company's "green" news to be featured in an upcoming USGBC newsletter. Send information to [usgbcianews@gmail.com](mailto:usgbcianews@gmail.com).

## Next Chapter Newsletter

The next newsletter will be issued during the first week of May. If you have news or information that you would like to share with the USGBC Iowa Chapter membership, please send to the Communications Committee at [usgbcianews@gmail.com](mailto:usgbcianews@gmail.com) by April 25, 2010. Thank You!

Remember to connect with USGBC Iowa Socially!

