

Bedford Summit on Energy Efficiency in Residential Building and Remediation

**Bedford Town Hall
321 Bedford Road
Bedford Hills, New York**

Wednesday April 16th, 7:30 pm

A Sustainable Home

SIMPLE FIXES

- Home Improvement
 - install ceiling fans
 - make sure all windows and doors operate properly and easily
 - stop all drafts, seal around all openings
 - replace plumbing fixtures and fittings with low water use models
 - replace appliances with Energy Star compliant models
 - install a tankless hot water heating system
 - use low VOC paint when repainting
 - install compact fluorescent (or LED) lamps in light fixtures
 - sign up for green power
 - recycle, reduce, reuse

MORE SOPHISTICATED

- Adding to or Remodeling Your Home
 - “the greenest building is the one that’s already built”
 - replace windows with operable double windows with low emissivity argon filled double glazing
 - insulate walls, ceilings, attic, floors and basements
 - install light colored roofing
 - install a whole house ventilation system
 - specify construction materials and finishes to have a low VOC and high recycled content

- use removable/recyclable materials and finishes (e.g. linoleum and cork flooring)
- install solar shading devices (i.e. awnings)
- install multi-zone heating and cooling system
- Don't forget the landscaping
 - use planting for shade in the summer, solar gain in the winter
 - use planting as a wind block
 - try xeriscaping (no water needed planting)
 - use permeable paving system

WHOLE HOG

- Go low tech:
 - implement whole house passive heating and cooling strategies at the planning stage
 - integrate outdoor spaces and 3-season rooms in the plan
- Go high tech:
 - consider installing photovoltaics (solar panels)
 - consider installing a geothermal heating and cooling system
 - install a computerized central heating and cooling control system
- Other
 - use engineered lumber
 - segregate the garage from the house
 - institute a construction site salvage/recycling program
 - collect storm water and grey water (for watering your vegetable garden)
 - install hydronic radiant floor heating