

## **Best Building Practices: Codes and Beyond May Seminars for Homebuilders**

The hurricanes of the last two years have increased interest in coastal areas about current materials and technology regarding wind resistance, water damage mitigation, and energy efficiency. The Auburn University Building Science Department, Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, the Alabama Extension System, and the U.S. Department of Energy have combined efforts to bring some of the answers to homebuilders in lower Alabama. Several speakers are coming together to present powerful seminars addressing these issues. There will be two seminars in Alabama: one in Baldwin County on May 17 and one in Mobile County on May 18. These seminars are designed to answer some of the questions homebuilders have on current materials and techniques and also about the requirements and implications of the International Residential Codes. These issues are of extreme importance to builders who need to be compliant to the codes and continue to be profitable. The residential construction environment is changing, and it is vital that home builders are aware of the changes.

The speakers at the seminar are:

- Steve Easley, co-host of the TV program “Your New House”, who will discuss new building practices. Mr. Easley has given hundreds of seminars around the country, and is considered an expert on the topic.
- Dr. Robert Wendt, of the Oak Ridge Labs, will talk about cutting edge work on materials. Dr. Wendt has spoken nationally about the impacts of water on various building materials.
- Michael DeWein, manager of the Building Codes Assistance Program (BCAP), will cover the wind speed requirements and water issues of the International Residential Code.
- Cosimina Panetti, also of BCAP will address the energy section of the International Residential Code, and some of the community benefits of the adoption of the code.
- Bruce W., Smith, a faculty member of the Auburn University Building Science Department, will look at the cost comparison for compliance with the wind speed requirements and the impact on appraisal values.

There will be a limit of 30 participants in each seminar, and pre-registration is encouraged. **Participants will receive a copy of the International Residential Code 2006, along with other information.** To register, call the Baldwin County Home Builders Association at (251) 928-9927 or the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Mobile at (251) 667-6523, or for more information contact Bruce Smith at 334/844-5431 or Karen Clifton at 334/242-5321. Lunch will be provided by the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Mobile.

The Baldwin County Seminar will be held on May 17, 2006 at the Hampton Inn, 29451 U.S. Highway 98, Daphne, AL from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

The Mobile County Seminar will be held at the office of the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Mobile, located at 1613 University Blvd., South, Mobile, AL. from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM.



# Best Practices: Codes and Beyond

*Learn about the benefits of building to codes*

**What:** A workshop designed to provide information on new technologies and building energy codes that can help in making new construction more energy-efficient and sustainable against storm damage

**When:** Wednesday, May 17, 2006  
9:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Where:** Hampton Inn, 29451 U.S. Highway 98, Daphne, AL

**Who should attend?** Home Builders in the Gulf Coast area

**Lunch:** Will be provided

**Workshop content:** New building materials and technologies for more sustainable homes and the benefits and impacts of code adoption in the Gulf Coast area.

**Sponsors:** Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, Alabama Cooperative Extension System and Auburn University

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**How to Register:** Mail this form along with your check for \$15 by May 10<sup>th</sup> to  
Baldwin County Home Builders Association  
P.O. Box 1067  
Fairhope, Alabama 36533  
(251) 928-9927

**SPACE IS LIMITED, SO REGISTER EARLY!**

Please reserve \_\_\_ seats

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

The following persons from my company will also attend

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