

The Cliffs
LIFESTYLE



JUNE 2008



Annual Culinary Edition

Chefs at The Cliffs embrace local, sustainable ingredients in a succulent apple and pear salad served with farm fresh greens over warm crostini.

The Cliffs Cottage AT FURMAN

2008

Southern Living Showcase Home
Opens to Public



The Cliffs Cottage offers a spacious floor plan accented by a modern décor. The interior incorporates the use of a natural color palette, reclaimed materials and rustic finishes in lighting, cabinet and door hardware.

The Cliffs Communities, along with Furman University and *Southern Living* magazine, is pleased to announce the opening of “The Cliffs Cottage,” which will be open to the public for educational tours this month. Since July, builders, designers and architects have been working steadily on the construction of one of the nation’s first fully certified LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) residential homes in America. The home is featured on the front cover of *Southern Living*’s June issue.

The Cliffs Cottage at Furman, a 3,000-square-foot home overlooking Furman Lake, incorporates an innovative design with cutting edge construction materials and systems. It is the first *Southern Living* showcase home built to the

newly established LEED Residential standard. Importantly, the structure features Weyerhaeuser’s new greener iLevel wood products throughout, which are certified as grown and sawmilled within 500 miles of the building site, and contain significant reclaimed content.

The Cliffs Cottage at Furman is a sophisticated green residence. The home and gardens, designed by noted “green” architect Scott Johnston of the Johnston Design Group and nationally-known landscape architect Mark Byington of Innocenti and Webel, use a mix of old and new construction principles, systems and materials that will increase the home’s energy efficiency. A primary goal of the project is to simplify the technical language of LEED and other green building standards and to provide a working model for other sustainable residences.

“Building ‘green’ has a common

Join us for an opening reception for Members at
The Cliffs Cottage at Furman
Thursday, June 19th at 6:00pm

This event will coincide with Furman's weekly lakeside concert series and will feature a jazz quartet and complimentary hors d'oeuvres. To RSVP call The Valley Concierge at (864) 660-1100.

misperception of either being too expensive or too technical. Our goal is to present these techniques in a simplified fashion. We also want to demonstrate that although building 'green' can incur higher costs upfront, that over time those costs are dramatically reduced through energy conservation, not to mention the positive effect that the systems have on the environment," said Scott Johnston, owner of Johnston Design Group.

Innocenti and Webel identified over 146 species of drought tolerant grasses, plants, shrubs and trees that will be planted surrounding the site of The Cliffs Cottage. They also planted a two-acre organic vegetable garden will be used for teaching purposes and as a source of organic produce on campus. The gardens will benefit from a 12,000-gallon underground cistern that will collect rainwater from the home's roof and from runoff, storing it for future irrigation.

The Cliffs Cottage brings together many sustainable features, from the use of renewable energy

systems – photovoltaics, geothermal ground source heat pumps, the solar orientation of the building – as well as water conservation and an ever-changing array of new technologies, such as high efficiency toilets from Toto and renewable floors made from bamboo.

During its first year, The Cliffs Cottage at Furman will host as many as 30,000 paid visitors who will tour the facilities and learn about how the new systems can be adapted and implemented in their own homes. Similar to a children's learning museum, the home includes "understandable" monitors, displays and exhibits that document and display energy usage and savings. At the close of the public showcase period, The Cliffs Cottage will become Furman's Center for Sustainability where students will investigate storm water management, study energy conservation, explore energy sensitive products and evaluate new systems to monitor energy usage and cost efficiency.

"Teaming up with Furman and *Southern Living* to create The Cliffs Cottage is an on-going,



The family room features a fireplace with a mantel made from reclaimed materials. Local pottery and artwork is aesthetically placed throughout the home.

exciting project for us at The Cliffs," stated Jim Anthony, president and founder of The Cliffs Communities. "The project gives all of us the opportunity to stretch our minds as we explore ways to live more responsibly in the 21st century. Using 'green' designs preserves and protects our natural resources. We are excited to be partnering with *Southern Living* and Furman on The Cliffs Cottage project.



Why Go Green?

One of the biggest challenges facing the "green movement" today is overcoming the notion that green building and remodeling is more expensive. However, more and more consumers are becoming educated on healthy products and energy efficient solutions. The green building industry is expected to grow from two billion green companies to 20 billion green companies in less than five years.*

10 Easy Ways to Go Green:

- Plant strategically placed shade trees (summer shade makes your home cooler; winter dropped leaves allow more solar heat to enter)
- Use low or no VOC paint
- Substitute better caulking to prevent drafts
- Set hot water tank at 130 degrees rather than the standard 140
- Install low-flow shower heads
- Compost food scraps to make nutrient rich soil for plants
- Use a programmable thermostat to adjust the temperature when you leave or go to sleep
- Harvest rainwater to irrigate plants and lawn
- Switch to Energy Star certified appliances that use 10-50% less energy and water
- Replace traditional incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent light bulbs

*Source: *Evergreen Concepts*