

Southern Living to showcase Furman

Although Furman University's team color is purple, the school continues to gain attention for its green building practices.

The Cliffs Communities Inc., Southern Living magazine and Furman recently announced plans to build The Cliffs Cottage on the school's campus. The project architect is Johnston Design Group and contractor is Triangle Construction Co., both of Greenville.

The 3,300-square-foot home will be built near the school's four eco-cottages, which are student housing units that promote sustainable living. The Cliffs Cottage will seek Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification.

Construction will begin this month with completion scheduled June 2008. Once finished, the cottage will serve as the first environmentally sustainable Southern Living Showcase Home. It will be open for public tours for one year and will be featured in the magazine.

The Cliffs Communities is serving as a financial sponsor for the project and did not disclose its contribution. The project cost has not been determined.

“At this point, we’re still negotiating with vendors,” says school spokesperson Vince Moore. “Some (supplies and services) will be given to us and some will be a reduced rate.”

The school estimates the facility will draw 30,000 visitors. Once public tours conclude, The Cliffs Cottage will become the school’s Center for Sustainability.

The Facility will showcase energy efficiency and natural products. The grounds will include an organic vegetable garden and the parking lot will be designed to minimize runoff.

Caviness Lambert Engineering Inc., Bunnell-Lammons Engineering Inc., Professional Engineering Associates, Postcard from Paris, McMillan Smith & Partners, and Park Seed are also involved in the Project.

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