

Fall 2023

## BuildingWell

### A NOTE FROM THE CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

As New Ecology approaches its 25th year working in sustainable development, we are focused on our purpose: to address global environmental issues within our local communities by bringing the benefits of this approach to the places where people live, work, and gather, and doing so with a concerted focus on equity. We advance this purpose by operating in partnership with communities and by approaching our work with a spirit of inquiry, innovation, and continuous learning. Our mission also drives us to share knowledge we develop in the field by deepening collaboration through trainings, workshops, and other initiatives.

This edition of BuildingWell highlights some of those efforts. From the Mid-Atlantic to New England, New Ecology teams are working on exciting opportunities to both share knowledge and learn from others. We cover a broad range of topics: education focused on opportunities and upgrades; collaboration to align goals and visions for organizations investing in sustainability; workforce training programs illuminating evolving regulations and reporting requirements; certifications for green building standards; and deep skills training to keep New Ecology and our partners up to date on best practices for evolving building decarbonization initiatives. Many of the efforts highlighted here also aim to ensure equitable access and education for those who may not routinely be able to access such trainings.

I welcome you to read on and learn more about these opportunities, and to consider how we might work with you and your communities to expand such offerings in the future.

— Stacy Neal  
Chief Operating Officer

### First Phius Training Ever Offered in Delaware

BY NORM HORN, SENIOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGER

New Ecology's Wilmington staff worked in partnership with Energize Delaware and Green Building United to bring an in-person Phius Certified Builder Training to the Mid-Atlantic region. Twenty attendees from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and Massachusetts gathered at the Paul M. Hodgson Vocational Technical High School in Newark, DE, for three days to learn about the building techniques needed to deliver durable, resilient, comfortable, and highly energy efficient Phius-certified buildings. The highly-interactive class also included in-depth explorations of building science and green building project management skills tailored to the audience of builders and tradespeople.

This is the first time that an in-person Phius training has been offered in Delaware, and marks the beginning of a concerted effort to transform the state's building and construction workforce to meet the climate challenges we're currently facing. "Energize Delaware is pleased to partner with New Ecology, Inc. and Green Building United to bring this training to Delaware's construction professionals. To make a difference in energy consumption we must rethink the way we build structures of all sorts making them as energy efficient as possible," said Drew Slater, Executive Director of Energize Delaware.



*The training focused on teaching building techniques used to create passive energy-efficient structures and applying Phius standards with hands-on examples.*

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For several weeks after the class was completed, participants continued to communicate and collaborate on the completion of the open-book examination. This collaborative learning experience established new professional contacts and friendships, and strengthened existing relationships. 🌱



## HODGSON VO-TECH

### HOME OF THE SILVER EAGLES



Thank you to  
Hodgson Vo-Tech  
for hosting the Phius  
Certified Builders  
training.

## New Ecology Partners with Action for Equity to Launch the Green Equity Partnership

BY TARSHIA GREEN-WILLIAMS, ACTION FOR EQUITY JOBS DIRECTOR, AND  
MARTY JOSTEN, PRINCIPAL DIRECTOR, BUILDING DECARBONIZATION

Action for Equity successfully led an effort to create and fund a new model of a Joint Community-Employer Skills Partnership that will focus on inclusion of Black and BIPOC Boston residents and employers in the green economy. Named the Green Equity Partnership (GEP), it will prepare workers to be active participants in the building decarbonization economy. The Massachusetts Clean Energy Center has awarded the GEP \$1.2 million for three years.

GEP will provide deep skills technical training for professionals working on retrofit or new construction projects, and in existing building maintenance. The program is initially focused on upskilling for existing employees with technical positions—heat pump installation and maintenance, HERS raters, Electricians, and Green Project Leads—all critical to advancing building decarbonization. The Green Equity Partnership's focus is on ensuring inclusion now, beginning with this economic expansion, so Black and BIPOC communities are not playing economic catch up later.

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New Ecology will be both an employer partner and a technical partner, identifying workforce needs and developing curriculum content. New Ecology is also leading the development of the initial training program for Green Project Leads, which we hope to launch as early as February 2024. Planning for all trainings is currently underway, and GEP classes will be starting in early 2024.



GEP has partnership spaces open for MBE/community contractors committed to providing quality jobs, training their existing employees, and/or advancing community inclusion. As our GEP partner employers grow, we will expand to train new employees. Our training is fully-funded so that neither employer or trainee will have to pay.

**Spread the word!** If you are an employer who wants more information, get in touch with Tarshia Green-Williams, Action for Equity Jobs Director, at [tarshia@action4equity.org](mailto:tarshia@action4equity.org)

## National Housing Trust IRA Bootcamp

BY REBECCA ARNOLD, PROJECT MANAGER

The anticipated flood of Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds has building owners and developers across the country clamoring for the best way to get a piece of the action. One important group New Ecology doesn't want to see left behind is Community Development Corporations (CDCs). These are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations that are created to support and revitalize communities. They provide affordable housing across the country and provide many important services in their communities. IRA funds have the potential to help CDCs to improve their properties, reduce their carbon footprint, and benefit the quality of life of their residents.

To this end, The National Housing Trust has designed an IRA Bootcamp to help these organizations navigate this new source of funding. New Ecology has joined the Bootcamp team to provide no-cost technical assistance to CDCs across the country. Fifty organizations were invited to submit properties for evaluation. New Ecology will work with the CDCs to create preliminary work scopes for these properties, and to educate them on the sustainable opportunities that exist for their buildings. CDCs can use these preliminary scopes as a starting point when planning building renovations and seeking assistance through IRA funds. Simultaneously, the National Housing Trust is providing education and resources on the funding opportunities available.

The New Ecology effort is being led by Joshua Galloway, Director of Green Building Services with a team of New Ecology staff who will be reviewing properties and meeting virtually with CDCs into February of 2024.



*New Ecology is working with CDCs to educate them on sustainable opportunities and to create preliminary work scopes for their properties that can incorporate IRA funding opportunities.*

## LOOKING FOR GREEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES?

Visit our website for open positions!  
[newecology.org/category/jobs](https://www.newecology.org/category/jobs)



## LET'S TALK

New Ecology is eager to work with partners who are interested in learning more about our work and how we can help you to achieve your project's goals. We have worked on hundreds of projects for owners in market sectors including housing, office, retail, education, healthcare, government, arts, and nonprofit.

Our passion and commitment is best demonstrated by the fact that we have been at the leading edge of community-based sustainable development since 1999.

At the same time, our reach, approach and successful model have helped us attract and retain a talented staff known for its desire to make advances in a new and growing field.

Interested in learning more? Contact [info@newecology.org](mailto:info@newecology.org) or call 617-557-1700.

## NEW ECOLOGY

Community-Based Sustainable Development

BOSTON | BALTIMORE | WILMINGTON

294 Washington St., Suite 830 Boston,  
 MA 02108

[www.newecology.org](http://www.newecology.org)  
 617-557-1700

## New Ecology Conducts Non-Profit Visioning Workshop

BY MICHELLE MORAN, SENIOR ASSOCIATE, JOSHUA GALLOWAY, DIRECTOR OF GREEN BUILDING SERVICES, AND LISA REED, PROJECT MANAGER

The Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation is a family-run, national organization that promotes the development of contemporary art, community clean energy and climate resiliency innovations, and advancing ways for those with learning differences to succeed. The Foundation recently acquired a 1750s farmhouse in Madison, Connecticut, that was the home of Emily Hall and Burton G. Tremaine II. During its time on the property, the Foundation collaborated with modernist architect Philip Johnson on renovations and additions to the site and buildings.



*The tour stops in the barn to reflect on the visible original skip decking retained by the 1950's renovation and to discuss repairs and restoration.*

The Tremaine Foundation asked New Ecology to facilitate a visioning workshop to help align support for the Madison community and the Foundation's mission and values within the context of sustainability. Over two days, New Ecology Director of Green Building Services Joshua Galloway and Project Manager Lisa Reed worked with members of the Tremaine Foundation, Tremaine family, and subject matter experts. The workshop included interactive activities and large and small group discussions to identify and explore new visions for the property. As part of the group process, New Ecology developed a vision map to build relationships between participants' ideas within the context of the property.

The Foundation is committed to a historic and sustainable renovation of the existing property while designing new structures and landscapes as a model of sustainable development. Opportunity for preserving the experiential learning legacy of the property will be furthered with partnerships with workforce development programs, potential on-site incubator space and convening spaces dedicated to education. 🌱