

# Bates Technical College Construction Program Goes Green

TACOMA WA, Bates Technical College will introduce a new series on “green construction” through the college’s extended learning department, beginning mid-March at the college’s south campus location, 2201 South 78<sup>th</sup> Street, Tacoma.

Contractors and consumers alike are responding to the appeal of and the demand for healthier residential and commercial construction that takes environmental responsibility to heart, both in building practices and in the choice of materials. A green building is a building that maintains or improves quality of life in harmony with a regional climate and environment, while conserving energy and resources and reducing the amount of hazardous substances dispersed into the ecosystem. When building a “green” home for example, all stages are taken into consideration, from architectural design and building placement, to framing lumber, paints, ventilation systems, high-energy efficient lighting and appliances and landscaping.

## About the Construction Series

Participants may select one or more of the green construction courses to fit personal or professional needs, or register for the entire 57-hour environmentally sound construction series offered consecutively beginning March 13 and ending June 9, 2007. The series will encompass the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System, the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. Other topics covered in the series will include:

- An introduction to residential green remodeling
- Construction materials for a healthier environment
- Building healthy indoor air quality
- Methods of improving water quality in residential and commercial buildings
- How to estimate, market and sell green construction

The last course in the series (*On-Site Application of Healthy Construction Practices*), will take participants on Saturday tours of environmentally sound construction sites, businesses and industries that promote green remodeling and construction.

## Bates’ new expansion project goes green

Bates’ recent 44,000 square-foot expansion project at its South Campus was developed with “green technology” from the onset. Building features focus on sustainable design, construction and operation: The amount of daylight in the building and dimmable lighting controls conserve energy; building products were selected with low volatile organic compounds to enhance indoor air quality; mold and mildew-resistant products wrap the building; light shelves on the south exterior coupled with interior windows will help cool the building in summer; automatic faucets minimize water consumption and germ contamination; the use of drought tolerant species of landscaping trees and shrubs requires minimal irrigation. The building is nearly complete and is anticipated to be ready for occupancy in April 2007.

## About Bates

Bates is the state’s largest technical college, offering certificate and degree opportunities in career education, distance learning, extended learning and apprenticeship training. For more information on extended learning opportunities, call 253.680.7300 or 7402, or visit <http://www.bates.ctc.edu/classschedule/>.

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