



ScrapHouse Encourages Green Building

ScrapHouse is a wonderfully unique example of reuse in the greatest sense of the term. An array of materials--collected from salvage yards, dumps, or collected from waste piles at active construction sites--will be transformed into an elegant one-bedroom green home. Many of the materials will be used for their original intent, and others will take new life. Scraphouse demonstrates that materials that are thrown away, or considered to be junk, still have an effective life-span. One person's trash is someone else's treasure.

Green buildings are sited, designed, constructed, and operated to benefit the environment and provide healthier places for people to work, live and visit. The most successful green buildings incorporate integrated building design strategies--emphasizing sustainable site planning, energy and water efficiency, materials and resources conservation and human health.

Why design green buildings?

- Americans spend approximately 90% of their time indoors
- Buildings consume 65% of U.S. electricity
- Four billion pounds of carpet is landfilled every year
- Approximately 136 million tons of construction and demolition (C&D) waste is generated every year
- According to EPA reports, the air in new homes can be up to ten times more polluted than outside air due to chemicals used in building products, cabinets, flooring, carpets, furniture, paints, and adhesives.

Green building is a smarter way of building with three types of benefits: economic, environmental, and social. Economic benefits include reduction in operating costs (i.e., energy and water efficiency, waste management, repair and improvement) and optimization of life-cycle economic performance. Environmental benefits include conservation of natural resources, increased use of renewable energy sources, improvements in air and water quality and reduction of solid waste generation. Social benefits include improved comfort and health, reduced impact on local resources and infrastructure, and use of recycled/reused materials.

ScrapHouse is the convergence of creativity, sustainability, and urban excitement, located at the intersection of Grove St. and Polk, on Civic Center Plaza in San Francisco. It will be open to the public from 10:00am to 8:00pm, Thursday, June 2 through Sunday, June 5, 2005. These dates coincide with the United Nations' World Environment Day 2005. More information is available at www.scraphouse.org, along with photos of the process and additional information on green building and reuse. Information is available by phone at 415/355-3700 and by email at info@scraphouse.org.

PUBLIC ARCHITECTURE

PUTS THE RESOURCES OF ARCHITECTURE IN THE SERVICE OF THE PUBLIC INTEREST. WE IDENTIFY AND SOLVE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS OF HUMAN INTERACTION IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND ACT AS A CATALYST FOR PUBLIC DISCOURSE THROUGH EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND THE DESIGN OF PUBLIC SPACES AND AMENITIES.
1126 FOLSOM STREET, No. 3, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103-1397
T 415.861.8200 F 415.431.9695 WWW.PUBLICARCHITECTURE.ORG

Contact

Rachel Weidinger, Project Director
60 Otis St., San Francisco, CA 94103
Mobile: 415-793-2939
rachel@scraphouse.org
www.scraphouse.org