



## Green Lingo: Permaculture

Permaculture is a word originally coined by Bill Mollison and David Holmgren in the mid 1970's to describe an "integrated, evolving system of perennial or self-perpetuating plant and animal species useful to man"

A more current definition of permaculture is: "Consciously designed landscapes which mimic the patterns and relationships found in nature, while yielding an abundance of food, fiber and energy for provision of local needs."

People, their buildings and the ways in which they organize themselves are central to permaculture. Thus the permaculture vision of permanent or sustainable agriculture has evolved to one of permanent or sustainable culture.

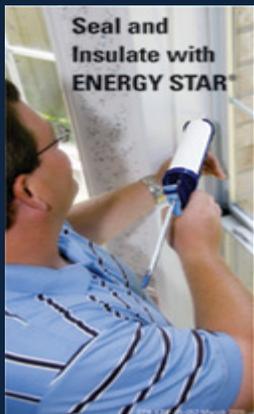
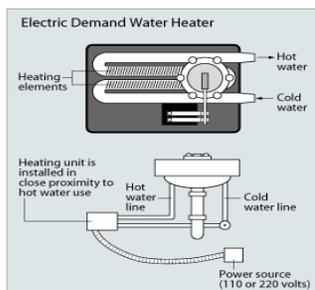
For more information, follow the link below

<http://www.holmgren.com.au/>

## Green Product of the Month: Demand Water Heaters

Demand water heaters supply hot water without the use of a storage tank. A gas burner or electric heating element instantaneously heats water as it is needed, rather than maintaining hot water in a tank until it is used. Energy losses associated with hot water storage are therefore eliminated.

The US Department of Energy estimates that demand water heaters can be 15% to 25% more efficient than conventional hot water tank systems.



## Green at Pare: South County Habitat for Humanity ReStore - Employee Donation Drive



To complement a relaxing afternoon of food, fun, and conversation with our colleagues at the First Annual Pare Cookout, the Sustainable Design Committee incorporated an employee donation drive in support of the South County Habitat for Humanity ReStore. A Habitat for Humanity affiliate program, the mission of the ReStore is to:

- Provide additional funding to support the affiliate's house-building goals.
- Expand opportunities to serve a broader base of the low-income community by providing low-cost materials.
- Divert construction and household materials from landfills and protect the environment.

Overall the donation drive (and cookout) were a success, with employees donating appliances, furniture, and various other household items.



## Green Current Events: "Across New England, 180 Communities Take Leadership Role on Energy Issues"

News Release - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency New England Regional Office - September 21, 2010

"As more New England communities seek cost savings in a tight economy, many are looking to expand energy efficiency in schools and other municipal buildings, saving money and helping the environment. The program challenges communities to reduce their energy use from municipal buildings by 10% or greater."

"Communities across New England are working with EPA, regional utilities, non-profits, and businesses through a variety of programs to find and promote cost effective energy efficiency measures. Through the Community Energy Challenge, cities and towns can take advantage of free EPA ENERGY STAR tools and resources to assess, or benchmark building energy use in schools, municipal buildings, wastewater and drinking water facilities. Participants have access to a network of organizations, professionals and funding that can help them improve energy efficiency. There are 66 communities from Massachusetts and Rhode Island who are participants in the EPA New England's Community Energy Challenge. "For more information on ENERGY STAR go to: [www.ENERGYSTAR.gov](http://www.ENERGYSTAR.gov) <<http://usepa.pr-optout.com/Url.aspx?518041x2503468x-2788173>> . For more information on the EPA Region 1 New England Community Energy Challenge go to: [www.epa.gov/ne/eco/energy/energy-challenge.html](http://www.epa.gov/ne/eco/energy/energy-challenge.html) <<http://usepa.pr-optout.com/Url.aspx?518041x2503467x-284765>>"