

The Masonry Society

Sustainability E-News

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SPONSORED EDITION

From the Editor

This edition is a little different than usual. Instead of a section on Green Building News, you will find one with articles on Energy News. Also included are several articles on permeable pavements – a different aspect of green masonry. Lastly, I've included some links that provide a different perspective on sustainability topics. I hope you enjoy the change, but don't worry, I'm sure we'll be back to the "traditional" topics next edition!

Thank you to those that have already pledge sponsorships for 2014! We are one-quarter of the way to our goal. Without sponsors, this newsletter cannot continue. Please consider joining our list of supporters. [For sponsorship rates, click here.](#) And for more information, please [contact the TMS office.](#)

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NOTE: Inclusion in this newsletter is not an endorsement of the products and materials featured, nor have these products been evaluated by TMS or the editor. Furthermore, the views expressed in the articles featured are those of the article authors.

ENERGY NEWS

While we don't often include much news about energy specifically, the articles below discuss several trends of interest. ~Tina

Sefaira Introduces Real-time Energy Analysis for Revit

ARCHITECTURAL RECORD

Sefaira, an energy analysis service for digital building models, launched support for Autodesk Revit. Following the release of their real time analysis plugin for SketchUp in November, Sefaira is intensifying its efforts to integrate energy analysis and performance visualization into the digital design workflow according to [this article](#).

Dear USGBC, Give Us Transparency on LEED Energy Data

LEEDUSER.COM

An open letter to the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) on revealing more granular energy data from LEED buildings. It's time for USGBC to walk the walk when it comes to energy data from LEED buildings. [Read the letter.](#)

Changes Finalized for 2015 Energy Code

BUILDING GREEN

Hearings to settle proposals for the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC)—the code that serves as the model for states and localities across the country—have ended, finalizing some marked differences from the 2012 version. Among them, the 2015 IECC applies to historic buildings and offers a performance path based on the HERS Index. [Read more.](#)

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Platinum Level



[Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada](#)***

Call for Committees Coming in January

ICC

Next month, the International Code Council (ICC) will release a Call for Committees seeking volunteers to serve on various committees for the development of the 2018 International Codes. Individuals are needed to serve on 19 code development committees, five code interpretation committees, plus the code correlation committee. The deadline to apply is June 2, 2014. To learn more, [click here](#).

PRODUCT NEWS

A recent article in Building Green digs into the impacts of aggregate in life cycle assessment of concrete and makes a case for recycled aggregate – something concrete masonry producers can learn from. ~Tina

EPD for U.S.-Made Concrete Masonry Products

LINKED IN

Angelus Block Co. Inc. has released an Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) for its concrete masonry units (CMU). Angelus Block is a manufacturer and supplier of CMU products in the Southern California construction industry, servicing a region from the central coast to San Diego. [Read more](#).

Impact of Concrete Extends to Sand and Gravel Production

BUILDING GREEN

Concrete is the most common building material on earth, and it is infamously estimated to contribute at least 5% of global CO2 emissions. Portland cement typically takes the heat for this impact, but as the binder, it makes up only 10%–15% of the mix. Production of virgin aggregate, which makes up 60%–75%, can have major impacts as well according to [this piece](#).

Greenbuild 2013: Top 10 Green Products Includes “New” Stone Product

COLDSPRING USA

A collaboration between Coldspring and Jason F. McLennan, Earth Measure dimension stone utilizes waste from stone manufacturing and is cut and presented in visually engaging patterns. [Learn more here](#).

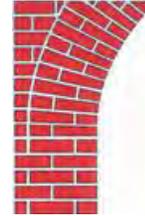
UL, LEED Collaborate to Label Product's Environmental Impact

PLASTICSNEWS.COM

The U.S. Green Building Council has partnered with Underwriter Laboratories to develop initiatives that will address transparency in building products and occupant health according to [this article](#). Their first endeavor will be a "joint label" called the Environmental Product Declaration, which "quantifies the environmental impact of a product throughout its life cycle."

GREEN PAVEMENTS

It's not often you hear about maintaining permeable pavements. You



[Western States Clay Products Association](#)***

Gold Level



[Masonry Institute of America](#)***



**

Silver Level



can read more in the link below. ~Tina

Are Pervious, Permeable, and Porous Pavers Really the Same?

Stormwater Report WEF

Pervious, permeable, and porous pavers (the three P's) often are used interchangeably by professionals without regard to their unique characteristics. They are, however, not the same. There is an obvious and distinct difference between pervious, permeable, and porous pavers. Each possesses certain physical and aesthetic qualities that need to be considered prior to project design and installation. To learn more, [click here](#).

Permeable Pavers to the Rescue

INTERLOCK DESIGN

Find out why the Richard H. Fulton Complex in Nashville regretted their decision to use porous asphalt for their parking lot and eventually resurfaced it with interlocking concrete pavers. [Read more](#).

Catching Rain: Low Impact Development An Overview to Maintaining Pervious Pavements

DEPT. OF ECOLOGY, WASHINGTON STATE

This 7½ minute [video](#) provides a brief look at key preventative and restorative maintenance methods for several commonly used permeable pavement options. The program focuses on porous concrete, pervious asphalt, permeable concrete pavers, and aggregate grid systems used primarily in residential settings.

A DIFFERENT VIEW

Every now and again I find some articles that give a different perspective on sustainability practices. You can read a few below. ~Tina

Companies Learning to Make CSR Pay Its Way

THE NEW REPUBLIC

General Electric recently ditched its solar-panel manufacturing business because it couldn't see a profitable path, [writes Jeffrey Ball](#). That's actually a good thing, since only green programs that are profitable will prove successful in the long run. "Right now, tough lessons are being learned. That's a necessary step in what, even under the rosier scenario, is going to be an epic slog," Ball writes.

Time to Rethink Misguided Policies that Promote Biofuels

SCIENCEDAILY.COM

Policymakers need to rethink the idea of promoting biofuels to protect the climate because the methods used to justify such policies are inherently flawed, according to a University of Michigan energy researcher in [this article](#).

Why Al Gore is Wrong About Carbon

ENERGY TRENDS INSIDER

Former Vice President Al Gore [recently argued](#) that we're nearing a "carbon bubble" and that the market is failing to accurately price the risks associated with carbon-intensive industries. That's largely inaccurate if one examines market conditions for fossil



Bronze Level



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and renewable fuels, argues Geoffrey Styles, although there's a risk that Gore's message could panic investors and become "self-fulfilling." [Read more.](#)

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