



HISTORIC CHICAGO
BUNGALOW ASSOCIATION

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Contact:

Becoming the Greenest City in America Begins At Home in Chicago

City of Chicago's Historic Chicago Bungalow & Green Home Expo on September 30th Invites Home Renovators to Learn Environmentally Responsible Techniques

CHICAGO, IL (September 14, 2006) – Chicago's effort to become the greenest city in America begins in the home of each of its three million residents. To make it simpler and more affordable for residents to go "green," the City has enhanced its popular home improvement expo with green workshops, experts and products this year – creating the 2006 Historic Chicago Bungalow & Green Home Expo.

At the Expo, being held Saturday, September 30th from 10am to 4pm at the Merchandise Mart, guests will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of green home restoration and energy conservation techniques, landscaping, new green technologies, and financial services the City of Chicago has to offer which support efforts to make a home more environmentally sound.

In addition to more than 140 vendors, many of which feature green products and practices, guests to the Expo can also attend more than 50 workshops, including those on "green-friendly" topics, such as: "Green Design & Architecture," to be led by home improvement celebrity co-host Marc Vassallo; "Defining Green Principles," by Green Home Partners, designers and constructors of energy-conserving homes; and Informed Energy Decisions, committed to making homes energy-efficient by offering planning and design advice and services to homeowners.

"This is a new, exciting step for the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association," said Charles Shanabruch, Executive Director for the HCBA. "Incorporating a 'green' theme to this year's event provides new, innovative ways for bungalow owners to rehab their residences, while also supporting the importance of energy-conservation in the home, and save money in the process."

Thom Day and Dennis Scott attended the Expo in the past and used some of the knowledge they gained to rehab their Chicago bungalow. They've been ahead of the curve on green building, using recycled denim on the walls in the attic as a form of insulation to a tank-less hot water system that heats water as needed. They have found that going green actually saves money in the long run. "We are very happy with the quality and the cost of heating and air conditioning in our home, it is never too hot or too cold and our heating and cooling unit operates for under \$60 a month," says Day.

In addition to providing information on environmentally-friendly techniques, dozens of experts and vendors will lead practical "how-to" workshops for home improvement enthusiasts, ranging

from how to find that perfect energy efficient heating and cooling system to how to apply for and receive home improvement loans.

Guests will be introduced to a variety of money-saving incentives and resources offered by the City's Department of Housing and the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association. The city offers a number of homeowner assistance programs to help make home repairs. There is also a range of financing tools, loans and grants, specifically for bungalow owners, that will be explained at workshops. Numerous DOH lenders and HCBA "partner" banks – including LaSalle Bank and ShoreBank – will hold seminars to walk people through applying for Bungalow Mortgage and Rehab Loans, getting through the tax season, and other money-saving tips for bungalow buyers. The HCBA will outline the full range of its Restricted Income Grants for which many historic bungalow owners can qualify.

For more information on the Expo workshop schedule, available vendors or the Historic Chicago Bungalow Association, please visit www.chicagobungalow.org or call the City of Chicago's information line at 311.

Sponsors of the 2006 Historic Chicago Bungalow & Green Home Expo include: Abt Electronics & Appliances, Arts & Crafts Homes and the Revival, AT&T, Chicago Conservation Center, Chicago Center for Green Technology, Chicago Department of Environment, Chicago Department of Housing, Chicago Sun Times, Chicago Transit Authority, CitiMortgage, ComEd, Harris NA, The Home Depot, Illinois Association of Mortgage Brokers, Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation, Illinois Housing Development Authority, LaSalle Bank, Peoples Gas, The Merchandise Mart, ShoreBank, Time Out Chicago and Washington Mutual Bank.

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