

Green Acres Is the Place to Be!

A small community of homes in New York State is the latest to join the **New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's Energy Star/PV Demonstration** project. Green Acres is a 13-home subdivision nestled in a wooded area near the town of Roxbury, New York, about 40 miles southwest of Albany. All of the homes in the community will be certified as New York ENERGY STAR labeled homes. **Alta Log Homes**, manufacturer and builder of Engineered Log Systems, has recently joined New York State's ENERGY STAR program and is in the process of installing a 2 kWAC solar system on its nearby corporate model home (shown in the photo). Planning is already underway for a second PV system to be installed on a home in Green Acres. With an estimated cost of \$20,000 for a system using two rows of eight modules, the PV portion of the project will be funded entirely by the NYSERDA program, which provides support to participating ENERGY STAR communities that install a PV system on an ENERGY STAR model home within the community. Steven Winter Associates, Inc. will monitor the PV system output to evaluate its efficiency and energy production. These data will complement the PV performance data being collected by CARB as part of the **Building America Zero Energy Homes** program. Incidentally, SWA worked with Alta more than 25 years ago to help engineer the company's products.



Building America Part of Florida's Biggest Green Development

Lakewood Ranch was officially designated as a Green Development by the **Florida Green Building Coalition (FGBC)** last week. The developer, **Schroeder-Manatee Ranch**, is also requiring that all homes built in the community meet FGBC Green Home Standards and be certified. CARB, led by SWA, has been working with the developer on the Green Development standards and with builders to help streamline the FGBC Green Homes application process. Recent emphasis in the **U.S. Department of Energy's Building America** program has been on very high performance homes and community-scale development, and Lakewood Ranch is one of the largest master-planned communities in Florida, spanning more than 28,000 acres. The site features large greenways and site-wide irrigation systems that use captured water runoff from onsite lakes. CARB has created a Green Home Checklist and is providing comprehensive training on how to use it. **Bruce Williams Homes, Morrison Homes, and Homes by Towne** are just a few of the builders involved in the project. One community is already under construction with others to begin this spring.



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