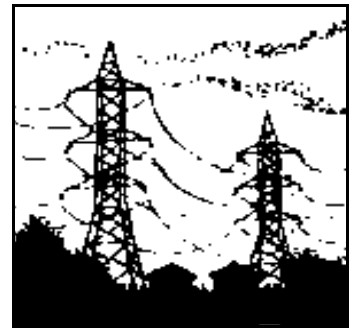
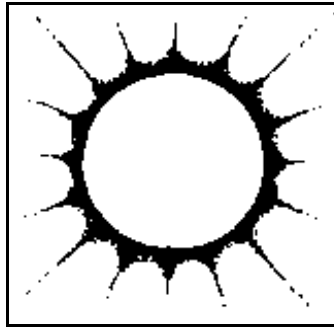




BBE DIY COURSE BUILDING AN ECO HOME

COURSE PROSPECTUS



Creating a healthier and more sustainable built environment

Building Biology and Ecology Institute of New Zealand:

P.O. Box 1364, Wellington, New Zealand

Website: www.ecoprojects.co.nz , E-mail bbe@ecoprojects.co.nz

THE BUILDING BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY INSTITUTE

Aim of the BBE Institute

The Building Biology and Ecology Institute is committed to creating a healthier and more sustainable built environment. Through education, advocacy and research it aims to make people aware of the health and environmental hazards of modern buildings and construction, and show them how to create a healthier and more sustainable place to live and work.

Background

The Building Biology and Ecology Institute was originally established in Germany and has affiliated offices in other parts of Europe, UK and USA. The New Zealand Institute has been active in education and research in the country since 1990. Since then it has motivated the New Zealand building industry to make a contribution towards a more sustainable future. Projects include guiding the building of the Waitakere City Council Eco home and development of their Sustainable Home guidelines, which encapsulate most of the BBE principles. Other key achievements include working with Fletchers to reduce formaldehyde in particle-board, and with Winstone's to develop a "healthier home" scheme. The Institute has trained many health practitioners, builders, architects and designers through the original International Correspondence Course who now form a network of professionals through the country. The BBE Institute now has two offices, one in Auckland and one in Wellington, which are run in conjunction with Ecological Architecture practices by graduates of the original Correspondence Course.

The BBE is primarily a voluntary organization. The course has been structured to reflect the fact that the BBE has limited resources to provide a full "teaching service". So the major focus is on self learning, and the outcomes simple enough for students to achieve mostly on their own.

Objectives of the BBE Institute

- To make information on healthier and more sustainable building, materials and services available to the public and to the building industry.
- To endorse or teach courses, workshops and seminars, and endorse or produce publications covering the field of healthier and more sustainable building and lifestyle.
- To endorse or carry out research and development in the field of healthier and more sustainable building.
- To advise and provide support and networking for those who are committed to a healthier and more sustainable building industry in the products and services that they provide.
- To advise and co-operate with other relevant people, including environmental, research, health, community, local and central government organisations to encourage a healthier and more sustainable built environment and lifestyles.

BBE CERTIFICATE IN ECOLOGICAL BUILDING AND DESIGN

Aim of the course

This course is primarily for people interested in building an Eco Home at some stage. It provides you with information about the building process and principles that can help you make design decisions for your land and building. The course can, however, be done for general interest.

The course is a Do-it-Yourself one: you are on your own. There is no tutor and no assessment. Whether you complete the questions is up to you, but our aim is to provide you with the basic information, give you a guide to finding more, and to let you go forth and make your corner of the world a better place to live in.

Course content

The *Building an Eco Home* Course consists of the five sections listed below:

- Introduction
- Building and Site Design
- Materials and Construction
- Energy and Alternative Energy
- Water and Wastewater

Each paper has a set of questions to answer to help direct your study. As well as the questions, each paper has an assignment, which will help you apply the information you have learnt to your personal project (or dream).

Length of the course

The course length has been estimated at 300 hours but this is a guide only. Whether it is done in more or less time does not matter as long as you achieve your personal goal. The idea is that you are learning through living and doing, absorbing it into your everyday consciousness and actions over a lifetime.

How to go about learning

You will need initiative to find out what you need to know, and self-discipline to complete this course. We provide text that gives the basic information, and point out other resources for more detailed knowledge. The path you choose to thread through the resources is your own: you may even end up striking into uncharted territory. So it is up to you to get out there and explore, to find the answers to your questions and put into practice what you have learnt. But the primary object is to have fun! Follow your intuition, your inclinations and access your passions. This way learning is not only more productive but is quite painless. The way you go about learning is up to you – reading, talking, listening, creating, teaching or attending workshops – as long as you achieve the knowledge in the end.

Resources

You are supplied with the basic BBE text but to complement this we recommend you get the following books as well:

- The New Natural House Book by David Pearson, available from the Amazon Books (www.amazon.com).
- The Sustainable Home Guidelines by Waitakere City Council, a hardcopy can be bought over the counter from the Waitakere City Council, but is free to download from their website (www.waitakere.govt.nz).
- A Pattern Language by Christopher Alexander, available from the Amazon Books (www.amazon.com).

ENROLMENT FOR *BUILDING AN ECO HOME* DIY COURSE

The course is \$250, for which you receive a folder of over 200 pages of Eco Building information, plus questions and assignments to help you with your Eco Home project.

The enrolment form is below. Fill in the personal and contact details. Send your form and payment and we will send out the material. Whilst you can enroll at any time between February and November, please note that service may be a little slow around the school holiday breaks.

Surname..... **First Name**.....

Address.....

..... **Post Code**

Phone (hm)..... **Phone (wk)**.....

Mobile..... **E-mail**.....

Would you like to be put on a shared Email list with other students on the course? **Y / N**

Please enrol me in the following course:

- **Building an Eco Home DIY Course** **\$ 250**

NB Postage and packaging will be charged for sending hardcopies and textbooks to overseas students.

- I will **Direct Credit** my payment - Building Biology and Ecology Institute BNZ **020536 0444101 00**

Please debit my Visa MasterCard Please find cheque enclosed

Card # _ _ _ _ - _ _ _ - _ _ _ _ _ Signature _____

Account holders name on card _____ Expiry Date __ / __

Please fill in the credit card details or send a cheque for the total amount made out to the Building Biology and Ecology Institute to P.O. Box 1364, Wellington, New Zealand.