



King GreenSpot Newsletter

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A Glimpse Of The Past, A Look Ahead

Haworth, in Holland, Michigan, worked with Timeless Timber, a Wisconsin-based supplier of certified underwater salvaged timber, to design and engineer a wall in their new Corporate Headquarters.

Timeless Timber exclusively recovers and mills virgin old-growth (300 -1200 year old) wood that had sunk in the Great Lakes and other US and Canadian waterways during the logging boom of the late 1800's and early 1900's.

This wood carries the Scientific

Certification Systems (SCS) seal of approval for being produced from 100% recovered submerged timber;



none is harvested from current old-growth forests. This reduces the need for existing forests to meet the current demand for wood. In fact, Timeless Timber recovers and processes two million board feet of lumber each year without sawing down a single tree.

The Timeless Timber wall brings warmth and texture, along with an element of ageless character, to One Haworth Center.

The finely grained and carefully crafted wood, unavailable for more than a century, references the area's furniture industry heritage.

In the broadest sense, this is an architectural element that offers both inspiration and purpose . . . clearly celebrating the beauty of nature, and at the same time, challenging Haworth members, stakeholders, and visitors to seek new, innovative ways to conserve and restore the natural environment.

Go Green with your Beer!

Organic beer is getting to be big business. In the past few years, the large national brewers Anheuser-Busch, Miller and New Belgium have all introduced organic products, joining a growing number of microbreweries offering organic beer.

The next time you stock up on eco-friendly ales, here are a few things to look for:

Certified Organic: When you buy organic beer, you're supporting a farm system that uses fewer pesticides and synthetic fertilizers, which in turn enhances soil fertility, increases species diversity, conserves water and produces fewer greenhouse gases. "Certified Organic" beers are made with at least 95 percent organic ingredients following all the standards set by the USDA, which include standards for the chemicals used to clean breweries.



Organic Hops: The USDA's National Organic Program allows nonorganic hops in organic beer, if the brewer can't get access to sufficient quantities. And because hops are important ingredients that add aroma and bitterness to beer, this has generated some debate about the "organicness" of organic beers that use nonorganic hops. If you want a 100-percent organic beer, buy from breweries that use organic hops.

Distribution: As with any food product, local, organic brews reduce fossil-fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to shipping, and they support local businesses. Fortunately, microbreweries with organic products have become popular over the last few decades,

since beer may be brewed in small vats even in confined urban spaces.

Shopping Tips:

- ◆ Buying locally produced beer that hasn't been shipped long distances is a worthy alternative, even if the brewery doesn't sell organic beer.
- ◆ Brew your own organic beer. Seven Bridges Cooperative sells starter kits at \$90 and up (www.breworganic.com, 800-768-4409).
- ◆ When throwing a party for large numbers of people, look for breweries that sell beer in kegs or growlers to reduce wasting glass bottles or aluminum cans.

[Article from www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/beer](http://www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/beer)

Eco Sunscreen??

Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers in the U.S., and as many as one million people are diagnosed with it every year. Despite these high numbers, skin cancer is preventable with proper protection.

But did you know that your choice of sunscreen can have an effect on the environment?

There are two different types of active sunscreen ingredients: chemical UV absorbers (which absorb rays that come in contact with skin) and physical UV blockers (which reflect rays before they can do any damage).

Most of the concerns around sunscreens have to do with the chemical UV absorbers. The same chemicals that interfere with human hormones were recently found to cause bleaching and death of corals.

78 million tourists visit areas with coral reefs every year, leaving behind 4,000 to 6,000 tons of sunscreen—and because many sunscreens are

petroleum-based, they don't break down quickly in water.

An April 2008 study published in Environmental Health Perspectives revealed that, when exposed to benzophenone or cinnamate-based sunscreens, coral developed viral infections that led to bleaching. The same happened when coral were exposed to paraben preservatives.



Many chemical UV absorbers have been found to act like estrogen in the body: benzophenone, oxybenzone, octinoxate (also called octyl methoxycinnamate) and homosalate are all chemical sunscreens to avoid for this reason.

There's also evidence that the chemical Avobenzone (also called Parsol 1789) degrades quickly when exposed to sunlight, and according to a 2007 report from the Environmental Working Group, many chemical sunscreens break down in as little as 30 minutes when exposed to sunlight.

Shopping Tips:

- ◆ If you're swimming in the ocean, choose sunscreens with plant-based ingredients to avoid damaging coral.

Usage Tips:

- ◆ Apply sunscreen generously to exposed skin at least 30 minutes before going out into the sun, and use 1 ounce (enough to fill a shot glass).
- ◆ The Skin Cancer Foundation recommends reapplying sunscreen every two hours.



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- ◆ "Waterproof" and "water resistant" claims aren't regulated and are often inaccurate. Always re-apply lotions after getting out of the water, toweling off or sweating heavily.

[Article from
www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/
sunscreen](http://www.thegreenguide.com/buying-guide/sunscreen)

Cruisers Going Green with Solar

The Ohio Highway Patrol is equipping its fleet of 1,150 cruisers with solar panels in an effort to boost battery performance and conserve fuel.

The green technology will allow the patrol to turn their vehicles off while stationary and still be able to run on-board computers, speed detection equipment and radios.



"We have so much new equipment in our vehicles that it really draws on the battery, even when (the engine is) running," said Lt. Mary Pfeifer, of the patrol's Marietta post. "We have in-car cameras, on-board computers, radar, laser, radios, lights and sirens... all of which draws on the battery."

In 2007, the patrol began to encourage its officers to conduct more stationary patrols in order to conserve fuel. In the first year since then, the patrol saved nearly \$1 million, or 16.4 percent, in fuel costs.

Pfeifer said having the ability to turn cruisers off while clocking speed or completing paperwork will save the state even more money.

The solar panels are designed to

help keep the fleet's batteries at a full charge.

"We already encourage our troopers to turn their cars off when sitting stationary and working laser or radar," Pfeifer said. "But when they are doing administrative things, there are items that can't shut down. With the solar panels, hopefully we will be able to leave those items up and running with the solar panels."

Each of the 5-watt panels cost \$36.99 and are expected to provide five years of service.

Pfeifer said most cruisers are in service for two to three years.

"We keep them until they have over 100,000 miles," she said.

[Article from
www.mariettatimes.com](http://www.mariettatimes.com)

Wind Turbine Planned on Route 23

Members of the Byers family say they are doing what they can to reduce the carbon footprint of their auto dealership on U.S. Route 23 by "going green" as much as possible.

The Delaware city planning commission gave those efforts a boost when it agreed to allow a wind turbine to be installed on the property.

The turbine will generate enough electricity to power the showroom lights at the dealership that is being converted from Ford to Toyota, said Jay DuRivage Jr., Byers' vice president.

The ReDriven 10kw wind turbine, manufactured by ReDriven Power Inc. in Ontario, Canada, will be located at the front of the dealership, said project architect John Oney of Architectural Alliance in Columbus. The 13-foot blades will be placed on a 60-foot "monopole" that will generate 40 amps producing 24,000 kwh, enough to power the showroom lights, he said.

The turbine will rotate at no more than 12 miles per hour, Oney said. It can withstand winds of 90 mph and will be equipped with a hydraulic system allowing it to be lowered if high winds are a concern.

Any additional electricity that is generated, when the dealership is closed, will be sold back to electric suppliers in that area.



Initially, the city staff said no because they thought it was a gimmick, but they kept coming back with more information.

City staff members also took into consideration the direction they've received from the planning commission and city council to attract and support green projects.

"What emerged from those talks is there was a legitimate case to be made for the project," said Dave Efland, city planning and community development director.

Under conditions imposed by the planning commission, the wind turbine must be used to generate electricity and will replace the existing flagpole. Byers must work with the Federal Aviation Administration to meet any lighting or other requirements.

Additionally, the planning commission required that no advertising be placed on the turbine or the pole and both must be a neutral color.

Commissioner Jim Halter voted against the project, saying he liked

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the concept but was afraid the commission members were setting a precedent that could come back to haunt them.

He favored working on a change to the zoning code that addresses wind turbines in commercial areas before taking a vote.

Efland agreed that is something that needs to be done, but he said the process is lengthy and Byers needed to get this project done as part of the property's expansion and conversion to a Toyota dealership.

The turbine should be up by August with the dealership renovations and conversion completed by early fall, Oney said.

By CANDACE PRESTON-COY
[Article from
www.thisweeknews.com](http://www.thisweeknews.com)

Summer Months = More Watering

July and August are typically the hottest and driest months of the summer season, when high temperatures and moisture deficits adversely affect lawns and gardens.

Watering for some, or all, of our gardens might be in order during the next two months. If you haven't done so already, set up a rain gauge to monitor rainfall in your yard so you're aware of weekly rainfall and whether it needs to be supplemented.



Most established plants need 1 inch of water a week at near normal

temperatures, which wets the soil to a depth of 5 or 6 inches. If temperatures are higher than usual, more water could be required; and if lower than normal, less might be needed.

It's best to water deeply and infrequently rather than to lightly sprinkle an area every two or three days, which encourages shallow rooting. This would likely cause plants to suffer more quickly during droughts, especially if mulches aren't used. Water before 10 a.m. to reduce evaporation and sun scalding.



Except for lawns, don't use a sprinkler, which wets plant foliage. Instead, use a soaker hose or bubbler attachment to apply water slowly at soil level.

Finally, you might need to prioritize watering; well-established trees and shrubs can usually fend for themselves in hot, dry weather, whereas young trees and shrubs, vegetables and flower gardens might need to be watered.

New tree transplants should be watered in the first year or two to get them well-established. Some research suggests that it's best to water intensely for the first two to three months after planting, while other research suggests watering weekly through the first, and sometimes second, season.

Vegetables require adequate moisture through the growing season for optimal growth and development. Water is critical for broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower during head development; carrots and radishes during root enlargement; snap and lima beans during pollination, pod development and enlargement; tomatoes,

peppers and eggplants from flowering to harvest; cucumbers and melons during flowering and fruit enlargement; and sweet corn during silking, tasseling and ear development.

Jane C. Martin is a horticulturist. Gardeners may find answers to their questions at plantfacts.osu.edu/faq.

By JANE C. MARTIN
[Article from
www.thecolumbusdispatch.com](http://www.thecolumbusdispatch.com)

Tips for Going Green!

Unplug Electronics
 Cell phone chargers, TVs, DVD players, stereos, microwaves and other electronics with transformers continue to draw power, even when they're off or not charging anything, as long as they're plugged in. In the U.S., such "phantom electricity" emits about 12 million tons of carbon into the atmosphere a year, according to Conservation International.



Rethink your Laundry
 Washing your clothes in cold or warm water instead of hot saves 500 pounds of carbon dioxide a year, according to climatecrisis.net. Drying your clothes on a clothesline six months out of the year would save another 700 pounds.



Paper or Plastic?
 Neither! Take a cloth bag with you to the grocery store. Between 500 billion and 1 trillion plastic bags are used worldwide each year. Although paper bags have a higher recycling rate than plastic, each new paper grocery bag is made from mostly virgin pulp (for better strength and elasticity), so the impact of paper bag production on forests is enormous.

