



GREEN Habitats for Humanity *Sustainable Residential Design Competition*

Overview

South County Habitat for Humanity of Washington County, R.I. (S.C. Habitat) www.southcountyhabitat.org, invites submissions from individuals, students, professionals and organizations in the fields of design, construction, architecture, engineering or any of the creative arts, as well as other interested parties, for a competition for the design of an affordable, LEED rated single family home. The winning design entry(ies) will be awarded \$300 for winning their respective category, and a single entry will be awarded \$500 as the Overall Winner of the competition. In addition, the winning entries may have their design built by S.C. Habitat (*at the discretion of S.C. Habitat*) and its network of volunteers.

South County Habitat for Humanity is an affiliate of Habitat for Humanity International serving the rural seacoast area of Washington County, R.I. This competition is part of our 20th Anniversary celebration. During our twenty years we have constructed or rehabilitated forty-three homes in partnership with local low-income families. Additionally, we have provided the financial resources to construct an additional seventy homes in numerous third world countries. Proceeds from this contest will be used to help construct two 20th Anniversary homes, one in Washington County and one in Haiti.

True to Habitat for Humanity tradition, S.C. Habitat builds simple, decent, and safe affordable homes. Our houses have no frills, but are well designed, well built, energy efficient homes. Each home is built to be, and stay, affordable, exhibiting low-maintenance features and energy efficiencies that allow for long term affordability and service.

Design Challenge



S.C. Habitat has made a commitment to providing simple, decent, affordable housing for families in the communities it serves. In addition, S.C. Habitat has recently committed itself to following and building its homes under the United States Green Building Council's (USGBC) LEED for Homes Program, www.usgbc.org, with a minimum threshold of achieving a LEED Rated home. It is the belief of S.C. Habitat that affordable housing can, and should, be healthy for the homeowners and sustainable to the environment.



In addition to following the USGBC LEED for Homes Guidelines, all entries

must also meet the Energy Star guidelines (www.energystar.gov) for home construction. While this is a mandate for any home that receives a LEED rating, it will soon become a code requirement for homes built in Rhode Island. It is therefore important that all entries meet the guidelines for an Energy Star home.

The design challenge of the competition will be to bring a creative approach to balancing affordability with the environmentally sustainable practices of the LEED for Homes Program for a single family home for the Rhode Island climate. The design must meet the minimum point's threshold to achieve a LEED Rated home, while also allowing for affordable construction and operation of the home. The winning entry(ies) may see their design built for a Rhode Island family.

Program

S.C. Habitat builds a variety of homes depending on the number of people in the family that will own the home. This competition will focus on two different home sizes:

- Three Bedroom (Max 1,070sf)
- Four Bedroom (Max 1,230sf)

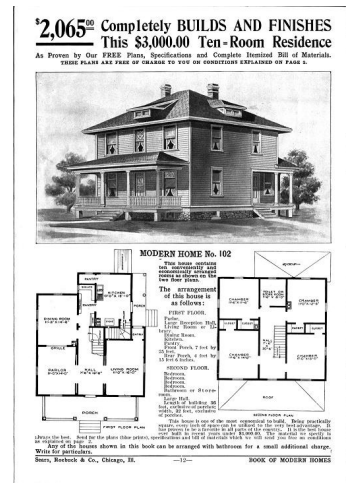
Competitors must select and then present a design solution for only one of these home sizes per entry they submit (see registration and entry requirements sections below). Design solutions must include the elements of their respective Program, and not exceed the maximum square footage of their specific program, or their entry will not be considered for judging.

Utility Rooms (*Mech/laundry*), stairwells to basements and exterior storage are excluded from maximum square footage. If the design scheme does not include a basement, then the area necessary for mechanical/laundry area may be added to the total square footage, *but may not exceed an additional 100sf*. All rooms/areas must be ADA accessible.

Basements are not allowed to have any of the program requirements, except mechanical and laundry areas. Garages, carports and storage sheds are not to be included in design solutions.

Three Bedroom Program:

- Maximum 1,070sf
- Minimum of two separate entries into the house, one to be covered
- Allow one entry to be ADA compliant
- Full Kitchen
- Living Area
- Three Bedrooms
- A Single Full-Bathroom to comply with *ADA Accessible Guidelines*



- Additional Half Bath may be included
- Hallways to be minimum of 3'-6" Clear
- Storage Closet(s)

Four Bedroom Program:

- Maximum 1,230sf
- Minimum of two separate entries into the house, one to be covered
- Allow one entry to be ADA compliant
- Full Kitchen
- Living Area
- Four Bedrooms
- A Single Full-Bathroom to comply with *ADA Accessible Guidelines*
- Additional Full *or* Half Bathroom may be included
- Hallways to be minimum of 3'-6" Clear
- Storage Closet(s)

Design solutions should take into account that these homes will be built with volunteer help, much of which is unskilled labor. Therefore, designs should be inherently simple in their method of construction, with as much of the design relying on off the shelf items and standard building practices.

Affordability of Designs

Competitors are encouraged to be as creative as possible within the parameters of their programs, while maintaining a healthy level of respect for an affordable budget for construction. While much of the costs of Labor for construction of the homes are offset with volunteer labor, many of the construction materials are purchased by S.C. Habitat. These costs vary depending on the specific design and size of the homes, but on average, the following budgets apply to their respective home sizes:



- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| ▪ Three Bedroom | \$72 per square foot |
| ▪ Four Bedroom | \$89 per square foot |



An approximate cost of construction for the respective design, allowing only for the cost of materials, must be included in the entry. In addition, a good-faith estimate for the professional trades (*Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing*) must also be included. Entrants do not need to concern themselves with site development costs, as these will vary depending on site conditions. Costs for Alternative and Renewable energy solutions are not to be included in a budget for construction, but are strongly encouraged to be included in design solutions / submissions.

Entry Requirements

Anyone is eligible to enter the design competition. Students and Design Professionals are especially encouraged. Entrants may be individuals, teams or entire organizations.

All entries must meet the following requirements:

1. Entry fee to accompany actual entry. All checks to be made to **South County Habitat for Humanity**:
 - a. Professionals in the field of Construction or Building Design/Engineering = \$150.
 - b. Students (*regardless of age but must show proof*) and all Non-Professionals = \$25
2. Entries to be composed on a single side of a presentation board, with a minimum size of 11" x 17", and a maximum size of 30" x 42".
3. Entries to the competition are to be "Blind Entries"; that is that presentation boards shall have no reference to actual entrants' name(s), organization, firm, company, address or contact information, or the entry will not be considered for judging. In addition, entries may not include written narratives or explanations on the presentation boards, only typical notes and drawing titles.
4. Each entry shall be accompanied by an official Registration Form indicating contact information for all people who are to be credited with the design entry/solution.
5. Entries must include at a minimum:
 - a. Floor Plans
 - i. Basement (*if applicable*)
 - ii. First Floor
 - iii. Second Floor (*if applicable*)
 - iv. Roof Plan
 - b. Exterior Elevations
 - i. North, South, East and West
 - c. Building Sections
 - i. Longitudinal Section
 - ii. Transverse Section
 - iii. Minimum of One Detailed Wall Section
6. Entries must be accompanied by the Basic Preliminary LEED for Homes Checklist <http://www.usgbc.org/ShowFile.aspx?DocumentID=3658> on separate 8 1/2" x 11" sheets. Again no reference to competitor(s) or organization(s) to be included on the LEED Checklist.



7. Probable Cost of Construction Estimate (See "affordability of Designs" section above)
8. Entries must be received by specified Deadline: **Friday, April 30, 2010 by 12:00 noon.** Late entries will not be accepted. Entries may be mailed-in or hand delivered. Any entries to be returned must have pre-paid packaging and addresses included in original entry packaging. **S.C. Habitat will not be responsible for return postage.**
9. Please, no models or electronic/digital presentations.
10. All Entries will become the property of S.C. Habitat and may be used at a later date with S.C. Habitat giving appropriate credit to Designer(s).
11. No entrant in the competition, or winner of any category, is guaranteed further work from S.C. Habitat as a result of this competition.

Competition Calendar

There is a specified calendar for the competition, with the most important dates being the mandatory Registration and then the Final Submission dates. To be eligible to enter the competition, **you must register and pay your entry fee by Friday, March 19, 2010.** Final entry submissions are due by **12:00 Noon, Friday, April 30, 2010.** All entries will be judged on Saturday, May 1, 2010, and the category winners will be notified in writing the week of May 2, 2010.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deadline</u>
February 1, 2010	Registration Begins
March 19, 2010	Registration Closes
April 30, 2010	All Submissions Received
May 1, 2010	Judging and Awards
May 3, 2010	Begin Notifying Winners
May 3, 2010	Begin Public Exhibit of Entries
	(see website for location information)

Winning Entry

All entries will be judged in their respective Category (*Three bedroom, Four bedroom*) by a 5-member Jury and will be judged on the following characteristics:

- Overall Presentation on Display Board
- Creativity of Overall Design Solution
- Creative use of Materials
- Efficient Use of Space
- Energy Efficiency
- Preliminary LEED Score (*as submitted*)



- Overall Probable Cost of Construction (*as submitted*)
- Innovation in Design (*e.g. method of insulating walls/roof, etc.*)

In addition to the Category winners, the Judges will award an *Overall Winner* for the competition for an entry that best displays a solution to the overall design challenge.

Category Awards to be:

Three Bedroom Category	\$300.00
Four Bedroom Category	\$300.00
Overall Winner	\$500.00

Since all entries will be assigned a number when they are received, judges will not have prior knowledge of the specific designers, and will refer to entries by their number given. This will ensure a “blind” judging process. Once the winners of the categories have been selected, the designers’ names will be added to the public exhibit on all entries received to allow for appropriate recognition to be given to all entries.

We will have a public exhibition of all the entries and will post the exact location of the exhibit on our website www.southcountyhabitat.org once the Registration deadline of **March 19, 2010** has passed.

If you should have questions or need further clarification, please call / fax us:

(401) 213-6711 voice
 (401) 213-6715 fax

If you prefer to e-mail us, please send questions to:

www.southcountyhabitat.org

and please write “*Competition Question*” in the subject line and we will respond as quickly as we can.

South County Habitat for Humanity staff members, Board of Directors members, Building Committee members and respective family members are not eligible to enter this competition.

Judges decisions are final.

Good luck to everyone!

-*South County Habitat for Humanity*



Official Registration Form

This form and your entry fee are due in to the S.C. Habitat office no later than **Friday, March 19, 2010**. The office is prepared to accept Cash (*in person only*), Checks or Credit Cards.

Category Entry:
(check only one)

Three Bedroom

Four Bedroom

Firm / Team Name:

Competitor(s) Name:

Contact Address:

Contact E-Mail:

Contact Phone:

Entry Fee Due:

_____ ***\$150.00 Professional***

_____ ***\$25.00 Student & Non- Professionals***

Type of Payment:

Cash

Check

Credit Card

Credit Card Info:

Card # _____ Exp: _____

Mail To:

South County Habitat for Humanity
1555 Shannock Road
Post Office Box 68
Shannock, RI 02875
(401) 213-6711 voice
(401) 213-6715 fax
www.southcountyhabitat.org

