

# WINTERGREEN

WinterGreen is a monthly publication from **Steven Winter Associates** designed to keep you updated on the latest news and information regarding energy efficiency, sustainability, and high performance buildings.

## SWA PARTNERS WITH USGBC ON GREEN BUILDING EDUCATION PLATFORM

Education@USGBC, the US Green Building Council's new green building education platform has just been launched. To support this new program, the USGBC invited Steven Winter Associates (SWA) to be one of its first Education Partners.



**EDUCATION PARTNER**

USGBC Education Partners are established leaders and reputable providers of green building and sustainability education. Over the past forty-two years, SWA staff have trained thousands of professionals on sustainable design, construction, and operation of the built environment. We are excited to continue these efforts in partnership with the USGBC.

As USGBC Education Partners, SWA can offer Continuing Education Credits required for the LEED Accredited Professional Credentialing Maintenance Program. SWA webinars will soon be available on the Education@USGBC platform. In addition, SWA will continue to offer a variety of in-person seminars, classes and workshops. For professionals wanting to attain the LEED Accredited Professional credential before June 15, 2014 (when the exam will be updated to LEED V4), SWA offers both LEED Green Associate and LEED AP exam prep courses. SWA also has several seminars on the LEED V4 rating system for those who want to learn more about how the LEED Rating systems are evolving and the new green building criteria.

For more information on SWA USGBC Education Partner courses, please contact Andrew Zumwalt-Hathaway at [ahathaway@swinter.com](mailto:ahathaway@swinter.com).

## CAMBA GARDENS PROJECT PROVIDES GREEN AFFORDABLE HOUSING TO SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATION

CAMBA Housing Ventures, Inc. (CHV) recently completed the CAMBA Gardens project, located along Albany Ave in Brooklyn, NY. The project consists of two buildings with 209 affordable units, outdoor recreation spaces, and offices with supportive services. SWA acted as energy and sustainability consultant, assisting with multiple energy efficiency and green building programs, including NYSERDA's Multifamily Performance Program, LEED® for Homes Midrise and Enterprise Green Communities. The project team was committed to developing a sustainable and energy efficient design and succeeded with a premier example of affordable housing.



CAMBA Gardens Project - Brooklyn, NY

SWA guided the project team that included CHV, Harden Van Arnam Architects, Reynaldo C. Prego, PE Consulting Engineers, Bruno Frustaci Contracting and Aeon Solar through sustainability and design charrettes during the design phase to incorporate the buildings' green features into the drawings and specifications. During construction, SWA worked with the owner and contractor to ensure best practice construction with specific attention to air sealing and compartmentalization. The building passed a demanding set of testing and verification requirements. Highlights of the project include a living wall in both lobbies, rooftop solar PV systems, and an outdoor resident garden.



**Steven Winter Associates, Inc.**

Completed in October 2013, the two buildings are the first phase in CHV's transformation of the eastern end of the Kings County Hospital Center Campus. SWA is currently working with CHV and the design team in preparation for CAMBA Phase II, which will be pursuing similar green building certifications.

CAMBA Gardens was able to achieve LEED Platinum Certification, the highest certification level, due to exemplary performance in energy efficiency, water conservation and improved indoor air quality, among other areas.

For more information, please contact Peter Smith at [psmith@swinter.com](mailto:psmith@swinter.com).



Rooftop Solar PV Panels

## ENGINEERING—IT'S NOT JUST A JOB, IT'S A LIFESTYLE

Having been in the energy efficiency industry for over a decade, it was always a sore point when SWA's senior engineer, Srikanth Puttagunta, talked about his own home. Built in 2003, the townhome was energy inefficient and uncomfortable. Setting the thermostat at 65° still meant some floors could be 5-10 degrees colder or warmer.

The best solution for Srikanth was to move. This past year he purchased an older split-level home with upgrades to the kitchen and bathrooms. But, it was still energy inefficient. With the help of trusted SWA collaborators Preferred Builders Inc. and Controlled Temperatures Inc., Srikanth followed the same advice he'd been giving all these years.

The first step was to insulate and air seal the building shell. The old fiberglass batts were removed from the exterior walls prior to dense packing the wall cavities with cellulose, taping all seams in the sheathing, installing a drainable housewrap, and re-siding with fiber cement siding. Next was air sealing of the roof deck with closed cell spray polyurethane foam.

Taking advantage of the availability of natural gas, the old heating system – an oil boiler with an immersion coil for domestic hot water – was replaced with a natural gas, condensing tankless combi-boiler that feeds the existing baseboard radiators and provides domestic hot water.

Cooling was previously provided by a through-wall air conditioner in the kitchen area and window air conditioners in the bedrooms. These were removed and a multi-head mini-split heat pump was installed that provides cooling and supplemental heating. Finally, a 5.2 kW solar PV system was installed on the roof.

Based on the previous homeowners' utility bills, energy modeling of the home, and initial utility bills since moving in, the upgrades that were performed on this home should result in a nearly 70% or \$3,850/yr in utility savings over the previous homeowners bills. Now that is a home that anyone can be proud of!

For more information, please contact Srikanth Puttagunta at [sputtagunta@swinter.com](mailto:sputtagunta@swinter.com).



Images from Srikanth's Home