



Glossary of Terms:

- **Renewable energy** is energy generated from natural resources such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, and geothermal heat
- A **carbon offset** is a financial instrument aimed at a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- A **carbon footprint** is the total amount of greenhouse gas emissions caused by and organizations, event, or product
- **HVAC** is an acronym meaning “Heating, Ventilating, and Air Condition”
- **Induction Lighting** has no electrical connection going into the glass bulb, the energy is transferred through the glass envelope through glass solely by electromagnetic induction
- **CFL Light Bulbs** “Compact Florescent Light bulbs” use 75% less energy and last 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs
- **Greenwashing** is a term used for organizations or individuals that spend more time and money claiming to be “green,” rather than implementing environmental practices.
- **Solar Thermal Energy** is the technology used for harnessing solar energy for the use of heating purposes.
- **Geothermal energy** is energy generated from the heat of the earth. It comes from energy produced during the original planet formation, from radioactive decay of minerals, and from solar energy absorbed at earth’s surface. It has been used for thousands of years but has gained notoriety in the past few years as a renewable energy source.
- **Passive Solar Technologies** are means of using sunlight for useful energy without the use of mechanical systems. Common example is a solarium on the equator-side of a building.
- **Energy Star Program** is an international standard for energy efficient consumer products. It was first created in the United States by the Clinton Administration but has since been adopted worldwide. Products carrying the energy star logo typically use 20%-30% less energy than required by federal standards.
- **Photovoltaic Electricity** is a field of technology and research related to the application of solar cells for energy by converting solar energy (sunlight, including ultra violet radiation) directly into electrical energy.
- **Micro-Wind Energy** is small wind Turbine systems typically employed for homes or small business’ wanting to offset some electricity costs. Usually only consist of one turbine, as opposed to the commercial farms which contain multiple, large turbines. Typically found on building roofs or next to business.
- **Energy Conservation** is achieved through efficient energy use, in which case energy use is decreased while achieving a similar outcome. This may come from simply using less energy (i.e. turning off lights) or from implementing more energy efficient practices and policies.
- **Energy Plan** - Comprehensive plan for home or business involving determination of energy uses and costs and how to most effectively increase overall energy efficiency. Starts with formation of “energy team”, which analyzes best way to implement the plan, and puts those ideas into action.
- **Energy Audit** - An analysis or inspection of energy flows within a building or process that are conducted to identify where improvements can be made and to measure success of future energy saving efforts.



Helpful Websites for Reference

Choosing an energy consulting firm

NC Green Professionals Directory (www.greenprofessionals.org)

Restaurant and Lodging

Food Service Technology Center (www.fishnick.com)

Energy Star Products (<http://www.energystar.gov>)

Legislation

Database of State Incentives for Renewables & Energy (www.dsireusa.org)

Certifications of Recognition

AAA (www.aaa.biz/Approved/eco.html)

Travelocity (http://leisure.travelocity.com/Promotions/0,,TRAVELOCITY%7C5019%7Cmkt_main,00.html)

Expedia (http://www.expedia.com/daily/sustainable_travel/going_green/default.asp?mcid=hp.tools_green&rfr=-52636)

Internet References

Web Sites:

www.proximityhotel.com/green.htm

www.xanterra.com/Environmental-Action-364.html

www.bluegrass.com/green/

Social Media:

Marriott on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Travel-Green/30973147648#/pages/Travel-Green/30973147648?v=wall&viewas=0>

Inn on Mill Creek's blog: <http://blog.innonmillcreek.com/search/label/getting%20green>

Green Planet Catering YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWIm9pQSxl>

Educational Site:

Great Wolf Resorts: www.projectgreenwolf.com

NC Zoo: <http://view2.fatspaniel.net/SunEdison/nczoo/HostedEndUserView.html>

US EPA: <http://www.epa.gov/>