

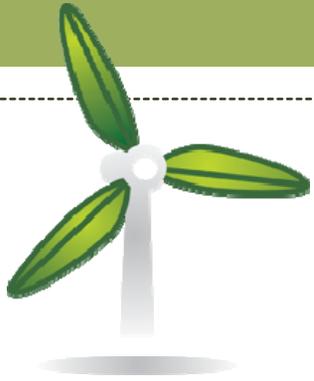
GREEN FIRE PREVENTION



EARTH DAY 2010



What does it mean to be green?



**SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES
WASTE PREVENTION
NOT PRODUCING GREEN HOUSE GASES**



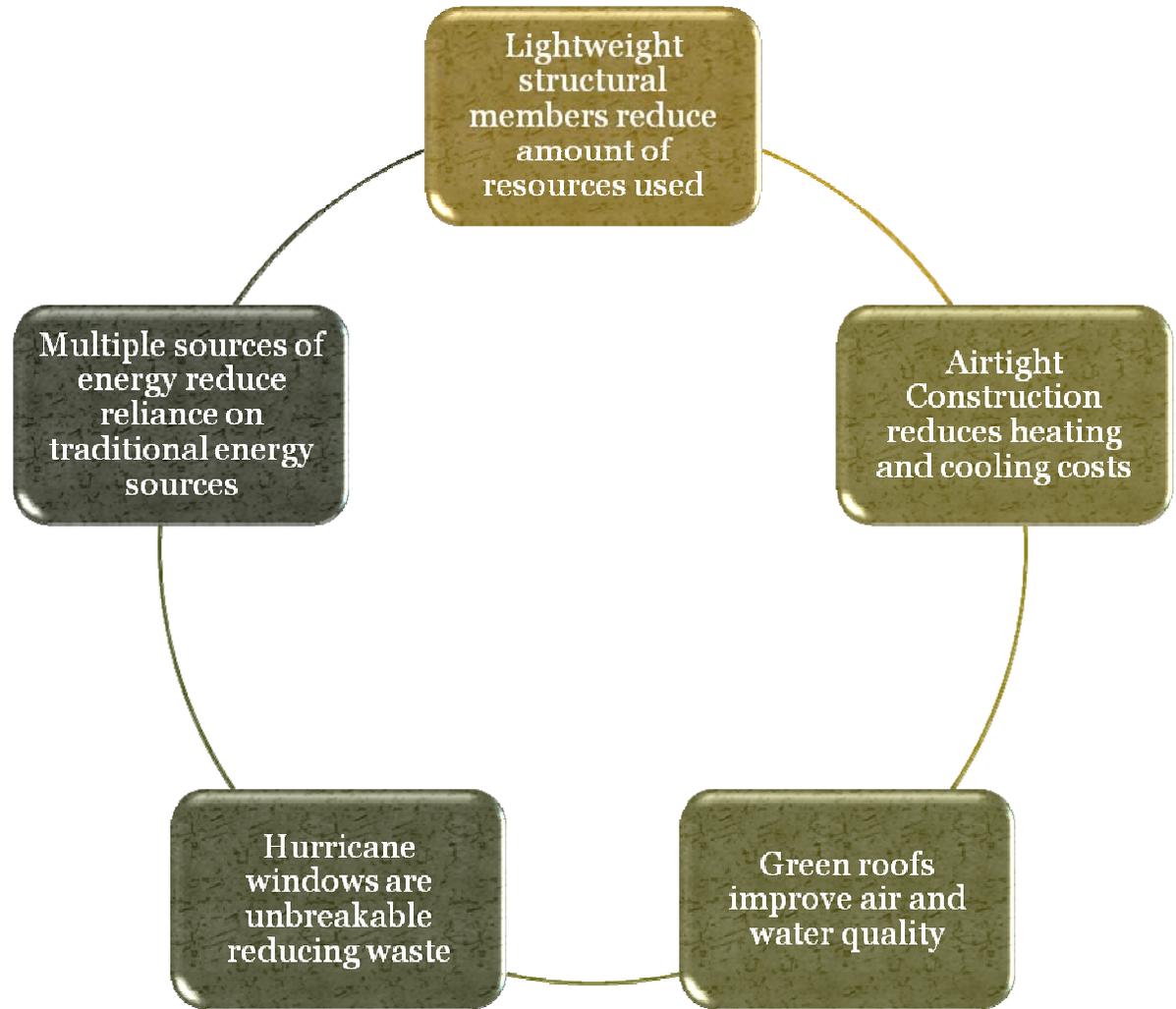
BEING SMART WITH THE RESOURCES WE'VE GOT!



But what does this have to do with the fire department?



Let's look at Green Construction





What happens when fire is added to the equation?

Lightweight structural members reduce amount of resources used

- More readily ignitable
- Less strength under fire conditions
- Much quicker collapse

Airtight Construction reduces heating and cooling costs

- Holds in heat and toxic products of combustion
- Harder for residents to escape
- Harder for firefighters to fight

Green roofs improve air and water quality

- Adds weight to speed collapse
- Makes ventilating roofs nearly impossible

Hurricane windows are unbreakable reducing waste

- Cannot be broken for ventilation or escape

Multiple sources of energy reduce reliance on traditional energy sources

- Very difficult to cut all power to keep firefighters safe while extinguishing the fire

Fire is not Green



- Destroys buildings
 - Wasting building materials
- Uses lots of water to extinguish
 - A single fire hose can use over 100 gallons per minute
 - All that water mixes with toxic products of combustion and runs off into storm drains and other waterways
- Produces large amounts of carbon dioxide
 - Lots of toxic gases as well
- Aside from environmental impact fire kills and injures thousands of people every year, costing millions of dollars in damages



Let's Follow the logic



Fire is not green

Most fires are
preventable by
making fire smart
decisions

Making fire smart
decisions is vital to
living a green
lifestyle

How can we prevent fires?



- Never leave cooking unattended
- Take care of fuel-burning appliances
- Use electricity wisely
- Be careful when handling fire



What if a fire still happens?



- Smoke detectors give advance notice
 - Keep batteries current
 - Replace smoke alarms every 10 years
- Know your fires and fire suppression choices
 - Know what can be put out with water, what can be snuffed out, and what needs an extinguisher
- Be prepared with Fire Sprinklers!



Did you say Fire Sprinklers?



**AREN'T THEY EXPENSIVE?
DON'T THEY WASTE WATER?
DON'T THEY RUIN EVERYTHING WITH WATER
DAMAGE?**



Myth vs. Fiction



- **Sprinklers are expensive**
 - Sprinklers in a new home cost about the same as a carpet upgrade
- **Sprinklers waste water**
 - Sprinkler's use at least 50% less water to extinguish a fire than a fire department would
- **Sprinklers ruin everything**
 - Only the sprinklers nearest to the fire will operate, actually reducing damage
 - By containing the fire earlier building can be saved



**Green house gas emissions
were reduced by 99% in a
sprinklered home versus an
unsprinklered one**

What about the Wildland Fires?



- Smokey the Bear is right....only you can prevent forest fires
 - Make sure camp and cooking fires are completely extinguished
 - Properly dispose of ashes and embers from fireplaces/woodstoves



Questions?

