

BOMA BIRMINGHAM - WHAT'S GREEN IN BIRMINGHAM?



BIRMINGHAM, AL, Wednesday – May 07, 2008 – In an effort to further green and sustainability practices in Birmingham, Alabama, BOMA Birmingham has accepted the **Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) International's 7-Point Challenge**. BOMA International recently presented its new plan and challenged members of the commercial real estate community to accept the plan as part of everyday business practice.

By accepting this challenge, BOMA Birmingham will work with building owners and building management firms in Birmingham, Alabama to reduce the use of natural resources, non-renewable energy sources and waste production. Benchmarks in the 7-Point Green Challenge include: decrease energy consumption by 30 percent across portfolios by 2012, employ the ENERGY STAR® metrics to benchmark energy performance and water usage, provide education to engineers, owners and operators, perform energy audits to implement low-risk and low-cost strategies, improve operations and building maintenance systems. Finally, as part of the plan, BOMA is asking members to work to position themselves as leaders and solution providers to owners and tenants. Several member companies in Birmingham have officially accepted the BOMA's 7-Point Green Challenge including Colonial Properties Trust, Cousins Properties, and Melaver Inc.

"BOMA's 7-Point Challenge is designed to encourage our industry to voluntarily address energy and environmental issues. BOMA Birmingham is well-positioned to accept this challenge" says Andrew C. O'Dell, CPM®, CCIM, BOMA Birmingham President. "We are excited about the challenge and the effect we can and will have on our environment, buildings and tenants."

"BOMA Birmingham is a proven leader in Birmingham, Alabama on energy efficiency and environmental issues and we look forward to working with them on the goals put forward in the 7-Point Challenge," said BOMA International Chairman and Chief Elected Officer Brenna S. Walraven, RPA, CPM, Executive Managing Director, National Property Management, USAA Real Estate Company. "Market transformation is achievable when organizations and association like BOMA Birmingham step up to the challenge."

Green Calendar of Events:

July 30	USGBC "LEED for SCHOOLS" workshop
August 12/19	LEED-New Construction Exam Prep Course
September 17	BOMA Green Education Panel, Colonial Brookwood Center
October 2	Birmingham Business Journal Green Awards Luncheon

Helpful Links:

<http://www.boma.org/>

<http://www.usgbcocal.org>

<http://www.greenseal.org>
<http://www.energystar.gov/>
<http://www.greenguard.org/>
<http://www.southface.org/>

For more information, please contact Luanne Anderson, Chair, Environmental & Sustainability Committee. LAnderson@Melaver.com.