



## Building Material Reuse Store Opens in the Bronx

In late April a new reuse store, ReBuilders Source, opened in the Bronx. This store offers reusable construction and demolition materials, at a fraction of the cost for new items, while also creating environmentally friendly jobs and businesses in the neighborhood.

The ReBuilders Source is a project of the Green Worker Cooperatives, a South Bronx-based organization dedicated to creating worker-owned and environmentally-friendly employment opportunities in their communities. The reuse store is a fitting project for an organization that abides by the motto "...because your work shouldn't kill you, your community, or the earth."

ReBuilders Source is not the first building materials reuse center to offer New Yorkers options for finding new homes for everything from lumber to cabinets to doors to architectural salvage items. Build it Green (BIG!) in Astoria, Queens has been recovering usable materials from NYC's landfills since 2005, but this one facility alone cannot accommodate the thousands of tons of

construction and demolition (C&D) materials that are disposed of daily. In the South Bronx alone, it is estimated that over 1,900 tons of C&D waste passes through each day.

Both ReBuilders Source and BIG! cater to all New Yorkers: contractors, landlords, homeowners, and even do-it-yourself minded apartment-dwellers looking to make small improvements in their living space. For more information, check out their websites and think of them the next time you need to obtain or dispose of building materials.

### More Info:

[www.rebuilderssource.coop](http://www.rebuilderssource.coop) – The new ReBuilders Source in the South Bronx

[www.bignyc.org](http://www.bignyc.org) – Build It Green (BIG!) in Astoria, Queens

[www.newsday.com](http://www.newsday.com) - "NYC store saves home supplies from trash and resells them," *Newsday*, April 21, 2008.

## The Afterlife of Subway Cars

Sixteen nautical miles off the coast of Delaware, New York City subway cars have been helping to build artificial reefs after they have been retired from MTA service. More than 600 subway cars have already made their home here, and have helped support a 400-fold increase in the amount of marine life in the last seven years.

Increased fish populations have attracted more fishermen to the area, now known as Redbird Reef after NYC's famous Redbird subway cars. The demand for the retired cars, which NYC provides for free, is also increasing due to the reef's success.

### More Info:

[www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com) – "Growing Pains for a Deep-Sea Home Built of Subway Cars," April 8, 2008.

## Did You Know...?

The average American uses 222 pounds of materials every day, from the fertilizers used to grow their food, the trees used for their daily paper, and the chemicals in their beauty products.

World Watch Institute - [www.worldwatch.org](http://www.worldwatch.org)



Photo Source: [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info)

## U.S. Green Building Council Tips for a Greener New York

The U.S. Green Building Council New York Chapter (USGBC-NY) was established in 2002 to promote the design, construction and operation of buildings that are energy efficient, healthy, productive, and environmentally responsible in New York. In their *Buildings Matter* brochure, the USGBC-NY offers several tips to create healthier places to live and work. From your home to your office to your favorite restaurant, these tips are relevant to all types of buildings.

1. Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescents (CFLs), which use at least  $\frac{2}{3}$  less energy, and last up to 10 times longer.
2. Switch to a residential electricity provider that offers “green” power, and support the development of renewable energy sources such as wind, solar, biomass and water. Contact your electricity provider at home for green power options, or speak to your Great Forest representative to learn about energy options for your office building.
3. Perform an energy audit in your apartment or office to learn where you could improve your energy management strategies. Contact Great Forest if you would like to learn about reducing your energy usage at the office.
4. Buy only ENERGY STAR® qualified appliances and electronics which save energy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and may cut costs.
5. Join USGBC-NY and take part in their events and programs. Learn more about environmentally-friendly building management strategies. Inquire with your Great Forest representative for additional information.

### More Info:

New York Chapter of U.S. Green Building Council- [www.usgbcny.org](http://www.usgbcny.org)  
USGBC-NY *Buildings Matter* brochure-  
[www.usgbcny.org/documents/USBGC\\_NEWER.pdf](http://www.usgbcny.org/documents/USBGC_NEWER.pdf)



The typical savings of ‘green’ buildings compared to conventional buildings is as follows:

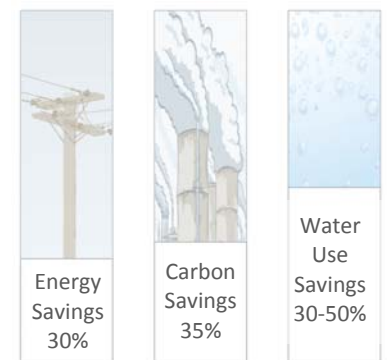


Image from USGBC-NY

## Time Warner Center Wins Prestigious Award

The Mid Atlantic Conference of Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) named the Time Warner Center, a mixed-use residential and retail space at Columbus Circle, *Office Building of the Year*. The 2.8 million-square-foot Center, opened by Related Management in 2004, won in the “over 1 million square feet” category. The Office Building of the Year (TOBY) Award recognizes quality in office buildings based on more than 80 operational points in categories such as energy and environmental management, tenant relations, community impact, and more.

“Time Warner Center is proud to be the recipient of this esteemed award,” said Jeffrey I. Brodsky, President of Related Management, Related Companies. Related Management has gone on to develop other ‘green’ buildings across the country, and has committed over \$6 billion to sustainable development.

### More Info:

[www.businesswire.com](http://www.businesswire.com) - “Time Warner Center Named Office Building of the Year,” *Business Wire*, April 28, 2008.