



COLD CLIMATE HOUSING RESEARCH CENTER
CCHRC



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University of Alaska Fairbanks Sustainable Village and Student Design Competition

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Students at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) are not just lining up to live in the UAF Sustainable Village; they're helping design it.

UAF is building a net-zero-energy student development in Summer 2012 that will demonstrate passive solar design, thermal storage, community food production, and other technologies new to the arctic. The project, led by the Cold Climate Housing Research Center (CCHRC) in Fairbanks, aims to advance cold climate building science, promote a new model of energy efficient campus housing, and tap into student creativity and innovation.

Through a design contest, student teams will come up with environmentally sound, affordable concepts that can be infused into the plans. They will also act as live-in researchers who monitor the buildings' performance and improve upon the design.

To inform their projects, students are studying community design in a seminar series through UAF and CCHRC. Class topics range from green building to wastewater treatment to alternative energy technology to indigenous ideas of sustainability.

Teams of students from engineering, horticulture, life sciences, and several other departments will create models of the Sustainable Village and present them in mid-October for the chance to join the design team this winter and live in the village next year.

The first cluster of 4-bedroom homes will house between 16-40 residents—a mix of undergrad and grad students. UAF plans to build on this cluster as the design evolves.

Team presentations are Saturday, Oct. 15 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at CCHRC, and the awards ceremony is Saturday, Oct. 22 at 12:00 p.m. at CCHRC.

The seminar series and design competition are being filmed and can be viewed at the UAF Office of Sustainability [website](#).

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