

# Benzie the focus of this year's Second Annual Building Tour

BY RICK GOULD  
Record-Eagle staff writer

Over two dozen people gathered at Traverse City's Farmers Market on a recent April Saturday morning for the Second Annual Building Tour.

The tour's objective is to educate consumers on the benefits of using reclaimed building materials.

Before heading out toward the Benzie area, the first stop on the tour was Keith and Sherri Huggett's home on Traverse City's west side. Their bungalow-style home has been a work in progress for over a year and is pretty much done. Some of the recycled products integrated in their home included Douglas Fir flooring upstairs, doors, light fixtures, kitchen cabinets and much more. It all blended smoothly with the house and the Huggett's possessions. Then it was on to Odom



Photos/Kate Fairman

**Timothy Young's home is comprised of materials from three salvaged buildings.**

Re-Use Company, which features reusable building materials, in Grawn. Odom's is a treasure trove of materials for both home interiors and exteriors. Bruce and Kathy Odom and John Hardy

represented Odom's as the tour hosts of homes and businesses that have used reclaimed materials in their construction and renovation. Bruce Odom said that half the fun for him on the tour is to see how stuff sold from his store has been reused.

Next, near Honor, a stop at Kelly Ignace's home showed recycled doors and windows, a sink and tub and Bamboo flooring. Ingace said that the cost of the flooring was comparable to laminates, with the advantage of being material of a renewable origin.

After a lunch break in Beulah, the tour continued with the next stop at the Michigan Land Use Institute in downtown Beulah. The MLUI had taken an old four-unit concrete building, gutted it and recycled much of the usable materials. They then removed items from a home that was donated to

lumber and a redwood deck have been innovatively blended in the renovation of their office building.

Examples are sliding glass doors turned on their sides as see-through partitions and the redwood renewed as conference tables. The building itself has been left opened up by removing drop ceilings and installing solar tube skylights and well-placed windows.

At Jury and Carolyn Lewizky's home near Beulah, the focus was on a barn-like outbuilding. Inside, however featured

some incredible reused wood, doors and a multitude of reused door handles, decorative molding, trim and lights. One of the most impressive details was a floor covered parquet-style 8-inch plywood squares. They were fitted tongue and groove and then sealed.

Next was Food For Thought's office and processing facility near Empire. Timothy Young and family have a stylish, eclectic home that has recycled components from two salvaged barns and a house. The windows and doors from the

home and outbuilding were recycled. The stairs, floors and doors are all recycled. In keeping with the long philosophy of the business, products are organically sourced, also with ethics.

The tour was organized by SEEDS, Traverse City's Sustainable Earth, Thought and Action. For more information regarding the tour, contact Odom at 276-6330 or reuse.com



The Michigan Land Use Institute in downtown Beulah was once a house and used many recycled components in its renovation. The conference table is refurbished redwood, once a deck, and the cubicle windows are patio doors turned on their sides.



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