

Bluffton Green Homes Tour

Sunday, July 23, 2017

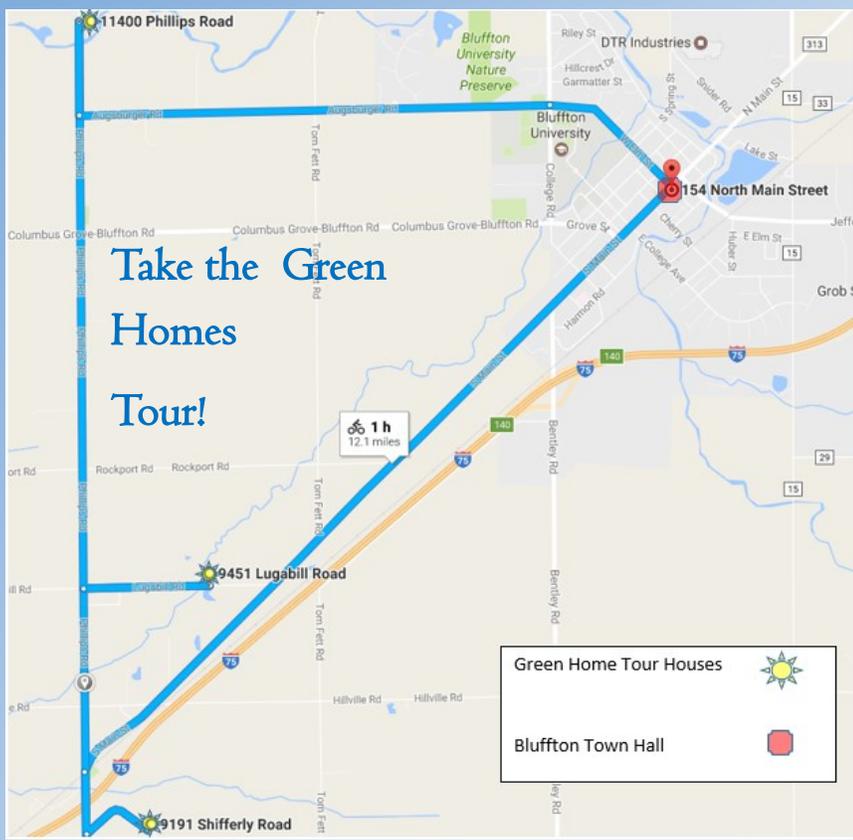
1pm - 4pm

Welcome to Bluffton's first Green Home Tour! Our purpose is to showcase homes in the Bluffton area that have adopted aspects of energy efficiency and sustainability. It might be through clever design, technology, or just plain hard work, but it's inspiring to see what others have done. The homeowners on the Tour have been gracious enough to open their gates for us, so please be respectful of their properties and the timeframe of the Tour, which is from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 23.



Green Home Tour Points

- Ken and Sara
 - 1970s PV Solar Home w/ Battery Backup
 - 9451 Lugabill Rd
- Josh Barhorst
 - Monopole PV Arrays
 - 9191 Shifferly Rd
- Rodney and Marie
 - Earth Berm, PV Solar and Pasive solar design
 - 11400 Phillips Rd



Bluffton Green Homes Tour 2017

Ken and Sara's



“Our home, built in the 1970's was not designed with energy efficiency in mind. We have made several improvements, such as additional insulation in walls, attic, and basement, sealing of air leaks and encapsulating the crawlspace. We have added solar PV panels with battery backup. We also have rechargeable electric lawn and garden tools, efficient wood burning fireplace inserts, dual flush toilet, and several human powered devices. Our goals are both to reduce our use of energy and to make our household more resilient and self-sufficient. “

“Josh Barhorst home was built in 2011. Josh installed a 6-kw solar array in 2016, and added 3-kw in 2017. The solar array is built with three monopole structures, each holding 12 solar modules. The inverter system consists of 36 micro-inverters. Output from the solar array is expected to supply one third of the electricity needed in the home annually. Josh commented, “My electric bill is right around \$120. It used to be over \$300!”



Josh's

Rodney and Marie's



“Prompted by the oil crisis of the 1970's, Rodney and Marie Yoder Dyck designed and built Rising Sun, a passive solar, earth-sheltered, super-insulated home surrounded by nature along Riley Creek. The 1985 dwelling is a two story, 5 sided house with a south wall of glass windows for heat gain in the winter which is supplemented by a wood stove in an open floor plan. Maynard Baderscher did the rough frame up; owner and family completed the house over the following 30 years. The May 2017 installation of 22 photovoltaic solar panels is projected to provide 90% of their annual electrical usage. “



Transition Bluffton's mission is to be a catalyst for conversation and sustainable change in the Bluffton community. Through the organization of projects of sustainable and cooperative agriculture, responsible transportation, building a resilient economy and the sharing of skills, all through a lens of ecological stewardship and respect of the Earth, we can create a community that is forward looking and based on strong traditions that will stand fast as the future unfolds.