

Cornell University Housing Research and Education Program

Overview and Organization

Professor Joseph Laquatra, Ph.D., coordinates housing research, education, and Extension efforts within the Department of Design and Environmental Analysis at Cornell University. Specific elements of the program include special studies courses for undergraduates, graduate advising in the Human Environment Relations and the Sustainable Design Studies majors (M.S.), and Extension activities. Graduate students study sustainable aspects of housing and focus on topics such as affordability, energy efficiency, housing for special populations, indoor air quality, and other relevant subjects. Extension activities are coordinated through a Program Work Teams (PWT) of Cornell Cooperative Extension, for which Professor Laquatra serves as lead co-chair: the Family Economic Resource Management PWT. Professor Laquatra and Extension Associate Mark Pierce coordinate other Outreach efforts by working with appropriate groups, organizations, and agencies.

During 2011, Joseph Laquatra and Mark Pierce provided leadership for the Consumer Education Program for Residential Energy Efficiency. Twenty-nine Local Associations of Cornell University Cooperative Extension were engaged in this NYSERDA-funded project. Limited resource households were targeted through EmPower New York and learned no-cost/low-cost energy-saving practices. Laquatra continued working with the New York State Department of Health and the National Center for Healthy Housing on the Healthy Homes Partnership. The two-day course, Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners, was held in various locations around New York State for personnel of county health departments, public health nurses, and other groups. Extension Educators engaged in professional development opportunities offered by Laquatra and Pierce. After Tropical Storm Lee ravaged many New York State counties, Laquatra and Pierce worked with Local Associations in flood-affected counties to provide information to homeowners and others about repairing flooded homes with an eye toward improving energy efficiency. Laquatra and Pierce provided direct education and appeared on television and radio programs.

Publications

Pierce, M. and J. Laquatra (2011). Accidentally breaking a CFL-is it mayhem? *Home Energy*. 28(6), November/December.

J. Laquatra (2011). Vampire appliances drain energy when powered off. *The Ithacan*. September 28.

Laquatra, J. and M. Pierce (2011). Toward more sustainable construction. 3-part series in iGreenbuild. July, September, October.
http://www.igreenbuild.com/_coreModules/content/contentDisplay.aspx?contentID=3602

Laquatra, J. and M. Pierce (2011). Waste management at the construction site. In S. Kumar (ed.), *Integrated Waste Management, Volume I*. InTech, pp. 281-300.

Laquatra, J. (2012). Environmental contamination: asbestos and Environmental contamination: radon. In A. Carswell (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Housing*. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, in press.

Presentations

J. Laquatra. Residential energy efficiency. Inservice for staff at CCE Monroe County. Rochester, January 24, 2011.

M. Pierce. Methods for Restoring and Weatherizing Older Windows. Presentation at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Greene County for general public; February 19, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Residential indoor air quality. Guest lecture in Cornell's Department of Architecture. Ithaca, February 24, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to trainees at the Urban League, Buffalo. February 28 - 29, 2011.

M. Pierce. Update on Changes to the New York State Residential Energy Code. Presentation for Ithaca Green Builders Association, Ithaca, NY; March 2, 2011.

J. Laquatra was interviewed for Cornell Daily Sun article, "Study Shows Central Heating Can Save Money." Article by Caroline Simone appeared March 11, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to county health department employees. Baldwinsville, NY, March 8 - 9, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to county health department employees. Batavia, NY, March 22 - 23, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to county health department employees. Albany, NY, April 5 - 6, 2011.

M. Pierce. Basics of green building. Presentation to the New York City Doe Fund, an organization that trains and prepares ex-convicts for re-entry into the job market. April 13, 2011.

M. Pierce. Options for greening your existing home. Presentation at Wayne County Cooperative Extension Energy/Eco Fair. April 30 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to county health department employees. Poughkeepsie, NY, May 3 - 4, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Essentials for Healthy Homes Practitioners. Two-day course presented to employees of the Connecticut Department of Public Health, Hartford, CT, May 24-25, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Updates on the New York State Task Force on Toxic Mold and the EmPower evaluation. FERM inservice for Extension Educators. Ithaca, June 2, 2011.

M. Pierce. Mold and moisture in homes. Presentation for Family Economics and Resource Management Educators In-Service, Ithaca, NY; June 3, 2011.

M. Pierce. Building science basics. Presentation at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County for Student Energy Corp Volunteers; June 3, 2011

J. Laquatra and G. Potter. Energy Bike demonstration. Dryden Dairy Day; Dryden, NY; June 11, 2011.

M. Pierce. Basics of home energy assessments. Presentation for Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) Horseheads, NY; July 7, 2011.

M. Pierce. Basics of green building. Presentation to New York City Doe Fund; July 27, 2011.

M. Pierce. Basics of home energy assessments. Presentation for Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) Elmira, NY; August 9, 2011.

J. Laquatra. EmPower evaluation. EmPower inservice. Ithaca; August 23, 2011.

M. Pierce. Technologies for energy efficient appliances. EmPower inservice., Ithaca; August 23, 2011.

M. Pierce. Residential energy codes update. Empower inservice. Ithaca; August 24, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Repairing your flooded home. Interview for a Schoharie County radio station, September 7, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Met and spoke with owners of homes flooded by Tropical Storm Lee. CCE Schoharie County. Cobleskill, NY; September 12, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Prevention of lead poisoning in homes. Inservice for staff of CCE Rensselaer and Albany Counties and county health departments. Troy, NY; September 13, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Green building. Greentopia Festival. Rochester, NY; September 18, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Interviewed on WHCU radio, Ithaca. Topic: Vampire electricity. September 20, 2011.

M. Pierce. Methods for restoring and weatherizing older windows. Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County; September 21, 2011.

J. Laquatra. Make your home energy efficient and healthy. Presentation for members of the Cornell Club of Rockland County at CCE Rockland; September 25, 2011.

M. Pierce. Drying and rebuilding your flooded home. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tioga County; September, 29, 2011.

M. Pierce. Basics of green building. New York City Doe Fund; October 5, 2011.

M. Pierce. Rebuilding your flooded home with an eye toward improving its energy efficiency. CEPREE Energy Town Meeting via the Cornell Wide Area Distance Learning Network; October 18, 2011.

J. Laquatra, session chair. Energy. 2011 Annual Conference of the Housing Education and Research Association. Baton Rouge, October 12 - 15, 2011.

J. Laquatra, Why green housing and green neighborhoods are important to the health and well-being of older adults. Twenty-third annual Affordable Housing Conference. Rensselaer, NY, October 27 - 28, 2011.

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