

ADOBE FLOOR WORKSHOP AT TAPROOT FARM - CAPON BRIDGE, WV

Beth and Tim Reese are hosting a hands-on adobe floor workshop on June 4-5, 2011



Join us for this second in a series of workshops to build "Querencia", a strawbale/cob artist studio at Taproot Farm. The earthen floor will be beautiful and serve as a large thermal mass for the passive solar design. Querencia is a whimsical, earth-friendly oasis designed to nurture the inner "creative".

Taproot Farm is a 20-acre sustainable farm overlooking the Cacapon River. Check out our website www.taprootfarm.info. The "green" buildings include solar panels, geothermal heating/cooling and a living roof. Currently, at the farm, there are laying chickens, lambs, bees, ½ acre organic vegetable garden, orchard and, soon, a fish pond and pigs. Participants will be invited to enjoy relaxing farm and river activities to celebrate each day of building.

WHEN: Saturday June 4- Sunday June 5, 2011 9:00 AM-6:00 PM (with a break for lunch)

WHERE: Capon Bridge, WV (90 miles west of Washington, D.C)

COST: \$95 for the weekend (includes instruction and hands-on experience with natural building guru Sigi Koko; 3 healthy, locally grown meals each day.; camping on site or there is a Marriot hotel 30 minutes from the farm). Discounts for children under 16. A few scholarships available (ask how to apply.)

TO REGISTER: Please contact Beth Reese by email at beth.reese218@gmail.com or by phone at 304-856-1336 to confirm that there is still space in the workshop. **YOU MUST RSVP TO ATTEND THIS EVENT!** Fill out a registration form and send it in with your check to reserve a spot. <http://taprootfarm.info/natural-building/>. Directions and details will be emailed to those who register prior to the workshop event. See additional details about the workshop below.

DESCRIPTION:

Adobe floors are made with non-toxic, inexpensive, materials that are often dug right from the building site. The primary ingredient is clay, which binds sand and straw into a beautiful and durable floor surface. Clay is a breathable material, with the capacity to absorb excess moisture from the air and release the moisture when air is dry. Adobe floors provide excellent thermal mass for passive solar designs or radiant floor heating.

WORKSHOP FORMAT:

We will begin Saturday morning with an overview of adobe floor ingredients. We will follow with a demonstration of how to assess ingredients, mixing techniques, and installation of the floor. Everyone will be invited to get hands-on experience with

each step in the adobe floor process. On Sunday, we will complete any floor installation that remains from Saturday's work. We will also demonstrate and give participants practice in floating the floor surface to a smooth finish.

WORKSHOP COVERS:

- Overview of adobe floors, including benefits and challenges
- Site tour showing what prep was completed
- Demonstration on the art of mixing adobe, including how to assess on-site materials for suitability and how to determine mixing ratio
- Demonstration of installation techniques
- Ample hands-on experience

Please see www.buildnaturally.com/EDucate/Workshops/WO-current.htm for additional workshops taught by Down to Earth Design