



You are Invited

to the Ground Breaking Ceremony for a Ground Breaking Project,
CLAM's super energy-efficient affordable home!

Saturday, February 20, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

11560 Highway 1, Point Reyes Station, next to the West Marin School.

Something exciting is happening in rural West Marin. CLAM (Community Land Trust Association of West Marin) is breaking ground on construction of a new affordable home that will incorporate an innovative approach to energy-efficient construction – the Passive House. It's a first in California and for affordable housing!

Passive House design represents cutting-edge energy efficiency and has been implemented in thousands of homes in Europe. It is achieved through a well-insulated, tightly-sealed building that is primarily heated by passive solar and internal gains from human use and appliances, providing increased comfort and healthy indoor air quality as compared to standard construction.

The Passive House concept is rapidly gaining momentum in the United States. CLAM's project will be the first new construction certified Passive House in California, achieving a dramatic reduction in greenhouse gases. The house is also designed to be LEED and Green Point Rated. CLAM and its partners aim to spark a proliferation of similar building efficiencies in the San Francisco Bay area and beyond.

Buildings use more than 40% of the nation's energy, yet much of the talk about "green building" is about recycled or renewable building materials rather than rethinking how a building is constructed in order to reduce its carbon footprint. CLAM's mission is to create environmentally responsible affordable homes. To that end, CLAM has already completed a high energy efficiency renovation of a 2-bedroom home on the same lot that is reducing carbon emissions that contribute to global warming.

The Groundbreaking on Saturday, February 20, at 10 a.m. features remarks by Supervisor Steve Kinsey and presentation of the exemplary features of this new Passive House. Senator Mark Leno or his representative and spokespeople for Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey's and Assemblyman Jared Huffman's offices will also participate. Journalists will have an opportunity to ask questions of the project architect and builder. CLAM will be posting a blog chronicling the construction project so others can learn from it. Tours at key points during the construction and an Open House upon completion will provide opportunities to see this groundbreaking project in action.

CLAM's mission is to provide stable and permanently affordable housing in an environmentally responsible way in the communities surrounding Tomales Bay. As a community land trust, CLAM holds land and housing in trust for the community in perpetuity while creating housing that working people can afford.