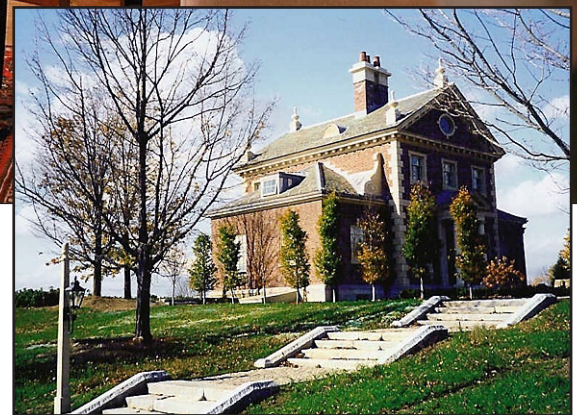




From country clubs to private mansions, Greenwich project manager Steven Chandler Hall is helping clients go green in ways that suit their budget and their needs. Now he's sharing his ideas with others at an upcoming Audubon workshop. Above, Princeton Club New York, his latest project, uses green energy. At right, the owner of this private home in Litchfield wanted to go green in many ways. Mr. Hall helped him achieve that.



Steven Chandler Hall is

Making green living a priority

By Kristan Zimmer, Editor

Type “energy savings for the home” into a search engine and you get more than 39 million Web sites to choose from.

Ed Begley Jr. isn't the only one choosing to live “green” these days. Many people are choosing more environmentally friendly options for heating, electricity, building materials, and appliances not only to save money as the softened economy makes everyone rethink their spending decisions, but also to provide their families with better quality of life and reduce their use of our natural resources.

For these reasons the Audubon of Greenwich is holding a four-part workshop series called “Audubon at Home” to offer those interested the opportunity to ask questions and get answers about how to build green.

The first of the series, an introduction to green building, was Jan. 27. On Tuesday, Feb. 24, a panel of experts will discuss “Energy Savings for the Home.” Tuesday, March 24, a panel will discuss “Indoor Environmental Quality,” and Wednesday, April 22, guests can learn more about “Building (and Rebuilding) a Green Home.” The series is sponsored by R.S. Granoff Architects, Hobbs, Inc., and Fairfield County Home Magazine as well as the Greenwich Land Trust and Green Fingers Garden Club.

Among the workshop panelists for February is Steven Chandler Hall, owner and founder of Chandler LLC and Chandler Eco, a project

management services company that specializes in coordinating building projects for commercial and residential clients whether they want to go green or not.

Mr. Hall, who has been in business for more than 30 years, has been inserting “green” values into his projects since long before going green was trendy.

“I think you can do well by doing good, if you set your vision of what you want to do,” Mr. Chandler said. He added that he thinks each of us has an obligation to be as environmentally sensitive as we possibly can. Putting this belief into action, Mr. Chandler has been an active member of the European Bahá’i Business Forum, a nongovernmental organization that aims to bring ethical values, personal virtues and moral leadership into workplaces. He was also on the selection committee of the International Spirit at Work Awards, which selects businesses that have expressed spirituality at work — not so much in the religious sense but in the sense of giving their employees a higher purpose for which to work.

“I’m in a fortunate position,” he said in an interview with the *Post* last Friday. “I can bring all the skills of this corporation to bear and do as many environmentally friendly projects as we can.”

Part of his job as a project manager is helping project owners make decisions for the planning, development, design, and execution of their project, whether that be a mansion, a school or a society’s club.

He said it’s always best when the project owner

brings in Chandler before hiring any architects, builders or others to do the work. That way he can help guide the owner to make the best decisions to keep every project moving smoothly and efficiently.

As most people don’t go completely green with any building project, his team can help the owner determine what green decisions will work best and be economically efficient as well.

“You have to consider the whole building,” Mr. Hall said. “It’s a holistic process.”

Increasing window exposure on the building’s south-facing side, tightening the building’s envelope to lock out external air, and choosing a more efficient energy source are all among the ways to make the building or home more environmentally friendly.

While most “green” energy methods might cost a little more initially to install, Mr. Hall said they add value to the home and will make up for added expenses later by resulting in lower energy bills.

As former contractors, engineers or construction managers, his team can provide insight as the project owner analyzes his or her needs and sets priorities and a budget.

“We understand all the issues that come up,” Mr. Hall said of himself and his team.

For more information about the upcoming Audubon workshops, visit Greenwich.audubon.org.

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