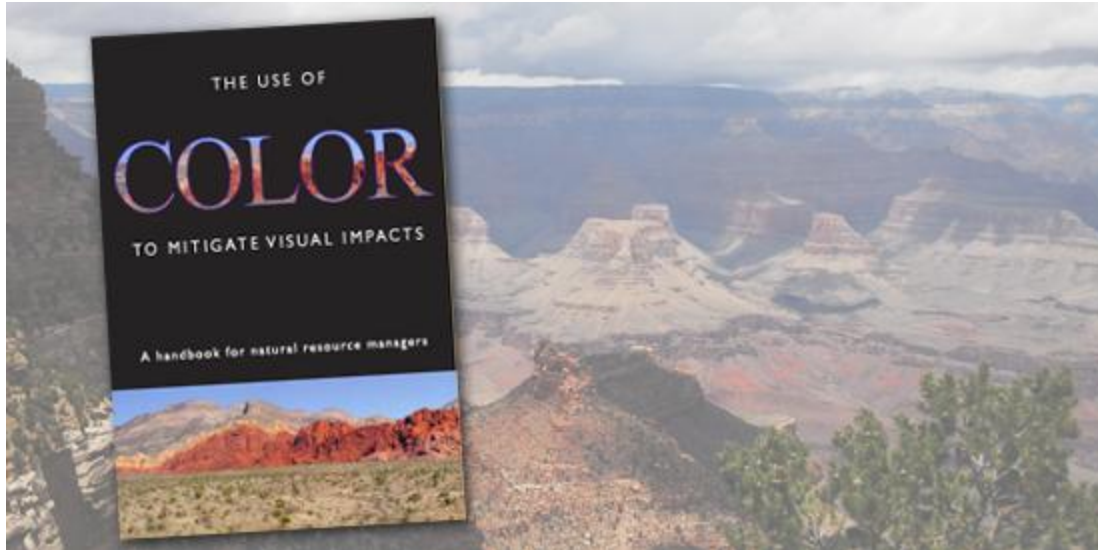




ARCHITECTURE • ENGINEERING • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE • PLANNING • ENVIRONMENTAL • SURVEY



## PROJECTS

### USING COLOR TO MITIGATE VISUAL IMPACTS

Affectionately referred to as the Color Book in Carbondale, CO, "The Use of Color to Mitigate Visual Impacts" is a handbook for natural resource managers that presents background, science, and techniques for using color and texture to lessen the visual presence of energy, communications, and similar facilities in the western landscape. Otak teamed with the Bureau of Land Management and two pioneers in the field of camouflage to develop the handbook, which will be distributed in five Rocky Mountain states. Otak's Carbondale office focuses primarily on planning and landscape architecture with support from and to all other Otak offices. For further information or to discuss your project, contact Kate Schwarzler by [email](#) or call (970) 963-1971. The office is located at 36 N. 4th Street in Carbondale, CO 81623 [DIRECTIONS](#)

## RESOURCES

### GREEN CONSTRUCTION PRICING



For the first time, the Seattle area's construction pricing guide, The Guide© includes designated green building materials along with pricing. The Guide© provides cost information gathered locally and updated twice each year. The data is arranged in the CSI format and includes material costs, systems-in-place costs, man-hours, and a subcontractor and supplier directory complete with company profiles, and emails linked for bid requests. The Guide© collaborated with King County's [GreenTools program](#), that called on the expertise of [Otak](#) and [The Frause Group](#) to help select products for inclusion in this inaugural issue with green pricing. If you are a construction industry affiliate, The Guide© is interested in your opinions and suggestions on this new feature; please [email](#) your comments.

For more information visit the [Best Construction Site](#) website. To subscribe [click here](#).



## PEOPLE

### BICYCLISTS TRAVEL 200 MILES ON PEOPLE POWER

by [Allisa Carlson](#), Otak Landscape Designer

On July 14th, four Otakians set out on a two-day quest to ride their bikes from Seattle to Portland. Greg Thompson and I, of Otak Seattle, and Lisa Bosca and Quinn Donnelly (and

his wife, Margaret) of Otak Lake Oswego participated in the annual [Seattle to Portland Bicycle Classic](#) (STP) sponsored by the Cascade Bicycle Club. Nine thousand registered participants started from the University of Washington and cycled south through Kent, Spanaway, and Yelm. A number of riders opted to ride the distance in one day and continued on to Portland. For the two-day riders (including the Otakians), the mid-point stop was Centralia, Washington where the tired riders were greeted with creamsicles, and set up camp on the Centralia College lawn or searched for their motel room.

The second day began with overcast skies, which was a relief from the heat of the prior day. Many riders were exhibiting sunburns, stiff necks, and sore posteriors. The most challenging point of the ride was between Longview and St. Helens, when the headwind kicked up. But pedal stroke by pedal stroke, we made it to the finish line at Lloyd Center in Portland where we could give our bikes a rest and bask in the aches and pains (oops, I mean glory). The mood in the park was vibrant as the riders celebrated their accomplishment by browsing through vendors, hanging out in the beverage garden, and racing to the shower truck. Allisa and Greg have plans to ride in next year's event, or perhaps attempt the RSVP (Ride from Seattle to Vancouver BC and Party). We hope you'll join us!

- The first STP event was a time trial between Seattle and Portland City Halls. Jerry Baker won the race.
- Total distance (miles) 202.25
- 2,230 one-day riders
- 6,770 two-day riders
- 5 countries represented (USA, Canada, Australia, England, Serbia)
- 44 states represented
- Eldest rider: 85
- Youngest rider: 2 years 4 months
- 29% female; 71% male riders
- 18% first time riders
- 1 unicyclist
- 1 longboard rider



## WHAT MAKES IT GREEN? TOOTHBRUSH AND RAZOR HANDLES GET NEW LIFE



Sometimes, even the smallest item can have an impact. Take, for example, a toothbrush -- that seemingly innocuous tool that we use everyday. Consider that one billion toothbrushes are discarded annually and that two billion disposable razors are sent to the landfill each year. But Dana Norwood (Ozone's web developer) and her sister have found a product that helps stem that flow. [Recycline](#) manufactures Preserve brand toothbrushes, razors, and tableware from recycled plastics--primarily recycled yogurt containers--and then recycles them again when they've reached the end of their usefulness. The process includes a three-time life cycle: originally as plastic containers, next as toothbrushes/razors/etc., then finally they get recycled into plastic lumber decking. Both companies accept their own cleaned products back. Recycline's travel canisters are even made from a renewable source of plastic called cellulotics that is derived out of wood harvested from forests managed under a program of sustainable yield. To watch a video about Recycline on the Sundance channel [click here](#). For more information visit the [website](#).

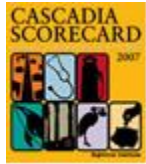
Some other companies have also adopted a similar modern closed-loop manufacturing process dubbed [Cradle-to-Cradle](#) by its creators, author/architect William McDonough and his partner Michael Braungart. In their system,

products and services are designed based on patterns found in nature, eliminating the concept of waste entirely. For a list of C2C certified products [click here](#).

## NEWS

### WHAT'S NEWSWORTHY @ OTAK

#### CASCADIA BY THE NUMBERS



Every year, Sightline Institute publishes its [Cascadia Scorecard](#) that reports on a regional gauge of progress that tracks trends shaping the future of the Pacific Northwest such as energy, sprawl, and economic security. There's good news, such as we're using less gasoline per person than at any time since the late 1960s. And there's disappointing news, such as economic security hasn't progressed for most ordinary northwesterners. The Cascadia Scorecard book is available as a [free download](#). For some quick numbers [click here](#).



#### GREENTOOLS E-NEWSLETTER FROM KING COUNTY, WA

King County, WA, recently launched an electronic newsletter on green building to its county and cities staff. It's also available on the [website](#). King County has long been at the forefront of promoting and facilitating sustainable design and construction, and its [GreenTools](#) program is designed to help builders, residents, businesses, and governments create and sustain green buildings and developments. The GreenTools Team can help users with technical assistance, grants, hands-on training, and the information to find locally-produced, high quality sustainable building materials and resources.

#### STREET OF "GREEN" DREAMS



*Curtis is shown above scoring the outdoor living space of House #5 that features a "living wall" behind the fountain.*

[Curtis LaPierre](#), Otak landscape architect, is a judge for this summer's [Seattle Street of Dreams](#), the largest single site luxury home and garden tour in the U.S. As president of the [Washington chapter](#) of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Curtis promotes the society's goals for careful stewardship, planning and artful design of cultural and natural environments. This year all five homes in the Street of Dreams were built and certified as eco-friendly show homes, with square footage reduced to under 5,000 for each.

#### PARIS: THE CITY OF..... BICYCLE LOVE



Photo [Toby Vandenak](#)

More than 10,600 bicycles have been installed at 750 stations all over [Paris, France](#). The city's new bicycle service, [Velib](#), lets users pay and then take and return a bike. Paris Mayor Bertrand

Delanoe hopes this new program will cut car traffic in the city by 40 percent by 2020. On the day the program launched, 13,000 people had already bought annual passes. A year-long pass for the program costs \$41.75, a one-day pass \$1.42, and a weekly pass \$7.15.

#### NATIONAL GREEN HOME GUIDELINES USED IN CENTRAL WASHINGTON



The [Central Washington Home Builders Association](#) Built Green (CWHBA) program will soon be the first green home building program in Eastern Washington and will also be the first in the state to use [national guidelines](#) as the basis for its program. CWHBA is using The Model Green Home Building Guidelines from the National Association of Home Builders, the same guidelines being used to develop a National Green Building Program, as well as a national standard through ANSI ([American National Standards Institute](#)) to be unveiled in February 2008. Carly Faul, executive director of the CWHBA will launch Built Green during the annual [Tour of Homes](#) in September. To find out how Otak's Yakima office can facilitate green projects in Central Washington [email us](#).

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#### FROM THE EDITOR

##### GO WILD!



*The Raggeds Wilderness Area, Colorado*

More than forty years ago, Congress, in a nearly unanimous vote, enacted legislation that permanently protected some of the most natural and undisturbed places in America. The Wilderness Act of 1964 established the National Wilderness Preservation System of undeveloped Federal land that retains its primeval character, managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and National Park Service. As the first country in the world to set aside these special places, the U.S. now has more than 700 wilderness areas in 44 states and Puerto Rico, with a total of more than 107,400,000 acres.

The use of motorized vehicles is prohibited in wilderness areas and human use is limited to walking or horseback—a fact of which I became acutely aware as I struggled unsuccessfully to haul a pack on my back along with my body from sea level to over 11,000 feet recently. Despite my personal suffering and that of my friends who were forced to endure me, the four-day backpacking trip in the [Raggeds Wilderness Area](#) of Colorado was an adventure with only the sounds of some jets flying overhead and a constant, clear waterfall cascading some 1,000 feet down the face of an adjacent peak to our campsite.





To help educate the public about these areas, the federal government's Arthur Carhart National Wilderness Training Center and the Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute partnered with the University of Montana's Wilderness Institute to create [Wilderness.net](#), an Internet-based tool. This tool provides an [online searchable map](#) to help locate wilderness areas all over the U.S., as well as general information, resources, scientific studies, policies, and legislation. There's also its searchable database of [all wilderness areas](#), as well as its huge [database of images](#).

Wikipedia also lists wilderness areas with [hyperlinks to various sites](#) and [GORP](#) is an online resource for all that is outdoors. Or if you're interested in helping preserve our natural environment, [The Wilderness Society](#) is a non-profit dedicated to protecting wilderness since 1935 so that future generations have "an unspoiled legacy of wild places." The government's [U.S. National Atlas](#) contains a layer that shows all wilderness areas, too.

Looking for international wilderness areas? There's the [Wild Foundation](#) that works towards wilderness conservation throughout the [world](#). For armchair travelers, Conservation International published a book that introduces 37 wilderness areas across the planet in 600 pages and 500 photos. [Wilderness: Earth's Last Wild Places](#).

So, this summer, if you have nothing better to do, Go Wild!

[Robin Rogers](#)

Otak is a member of:



*PARTING SHOT by Roy Arauz*



*Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks, Seattle, WA*