

GO WEST – GO GREEN

We're going West to Galway and we're going Green. Not with envy but with information and ideas. The Selfbuild, Extend & Renovate Show comes to Galway Racecourse on 24th & 25th May.

With oil prices at a record high and spring arriving weeks earlier than normal due to Global Warming, it's not just desirable to build sustainably it's essential.

Sustainable Selfbuilders: Those with a site or plot have a perfect opportunity to build sustainably right from the word 'go'. Minimising waste, building in high levels of insulation and using alternative heat sources are just some of the many measures available.

Environmental Extenders: Don't just extend; upgrade the entire energy efficiency of the whole house with additional insulation, a new efficient condensing boiler and use careful design to maximise solar gain. You can even harvest the water that runs off the roof. It will all help.

Responsible Renovators: Re-cycle and re-use wherever possible. 'New' isn't always 'good'. Consider traditional materials for both construction and finishes.

The Self Build Show has it All

Whether you are building, extending or renovating, the Selfbuild Show at Galway Racecourse has it all. 150 exhibitors will be there to provide advice, materials, ideas and services to suit every pocket and every aspiration.

Conscience and Common Sense vs. The Law

Even if your conscience and common sense have not persuaded you, the law will. A raft of new regulations are in place to help cut carbon emissions by at least 40%. Since last year a Building Energy Rating is required for all new homes.

We're all going to 'L' !

A revision to part L of the Building Regulations comes into effect **this July**. The key changes you need to know about are a 40% required improvement in energy efficiency, air pressure testing and the need to use some form of renewable energy.

Finally - it's Fun

You can still indulge yourself and be environmentally responsible. It's not all about saving the planet and keeping with the law. Building Extending and Renovating your house can be fun! Whole house wiring can give you a computer in every room and music in your bath. Finishing a project on time and on budget and ending up with a house that really suits you, your lifestyle and your family can be one of most rewarding achievements in your life.

The Selfbuild Extend and Renovate Show takes place at Galway Racecourse on 24th & 25th May from 11am to 6pm daily. For further information visit www.selfbuild.ie