



2008 Oxford – Miami University Solar Tour Guidebook

MIAMI UNIVERSITY ECOLOGY RESEARCH CENTER

5608 Somerville Rd.
Oxford, Ohio 45056

TOUR HOURS

Saturday, October 4, 2008
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Site Information: Built in 1984 by student volunteers, the Ecology Research Center is a 200-acre field station that serves as a focal point for ecological research and educational activities in southwest Ohio. The structure features a 1 kW solar electric system, as well as a 180 sq. ft. solar wall used to provide daylight for classrooms. The ERC provides field sites for aquatic research, terrestrial research, ecological activities and classroom lectures.

For more information visit www.units.muohio.edu/erc.

The Center has both passive and active solar systems incorporated in the design of the field station's main building. In 2002 a 1 kW photovoltaic panel array was added to the structure. Staff will be on hand all day to provide information on the design and performance of the solar systems in the building. Staff working on field-based research projects will also be available to give tours of the various ecology research programs being run through the Center. The field research tours will start at 1:00 pm and 2:00 pm.

Solar Home Design Workshop: 10:00 am - Noon The Solar Home Design Workshop will be taught by Scott Johnston, a faculty member in the Department of Architecture at Miami University with more than 25 years experience in design and consulting on energy efficient, solar-heated buildings. Scott also runs the weather station at the ERC and has been involved in the development of design tools for evaluating the performance of passive solar buildings.

The workshop will provide an overview of the passive solar home design strategies that are most appropriate for the climate of southwestern Ohio. Simple strategies for studying the seasonal performance of solar window designs will be presented and computers at the Center will be used to access other tools and sources of solar design information available on the internet.

For more information and to register, please contact Scott Johnson by email at:
Johnstsa@muohio.edu.