

From dream to reality



creating a healthy, beautiful natural home
by Elke Cole

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house design 101



house design 101

* what do you do?



house design 101

- * what do you do?
- * how do things relate?



house design 101

- * what do you do?
- * how do things relate?
- * at what time of day?



house design 101

- * what do you do?
- * how do things relate?
- * at what time of day?
- * being in and going through spaces



let the sunshine in

let the sunshine in

daylight when you want it



let the sunshine in

daylight when you want it



warmth when you need it

affordability :
keep it small



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natural materials

- locally available
- non toxic
- easy to work with
- ecologically harmless

examples:

earth: cob, light-clay, adobe
fibre: straw bales, wool
wood: timber, logs, lumber
finishes: clay, lime, casein

straw bales

benefits:

- highly insulative
- thick, breathable walls
- can be loadbearing
- owner builder friendly

bale raising



bale raising



Finishing strawbale walls with earthen plaster



step 1: bodycoat



step 2/3: finish coat & clay paint



strawbale houses



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building Cob

Text

benefits:

- high thermal mass
- local, unprocessed materials
- easily sculpted
- builds community too!
- accessible



cob houses



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cob fun





cob details



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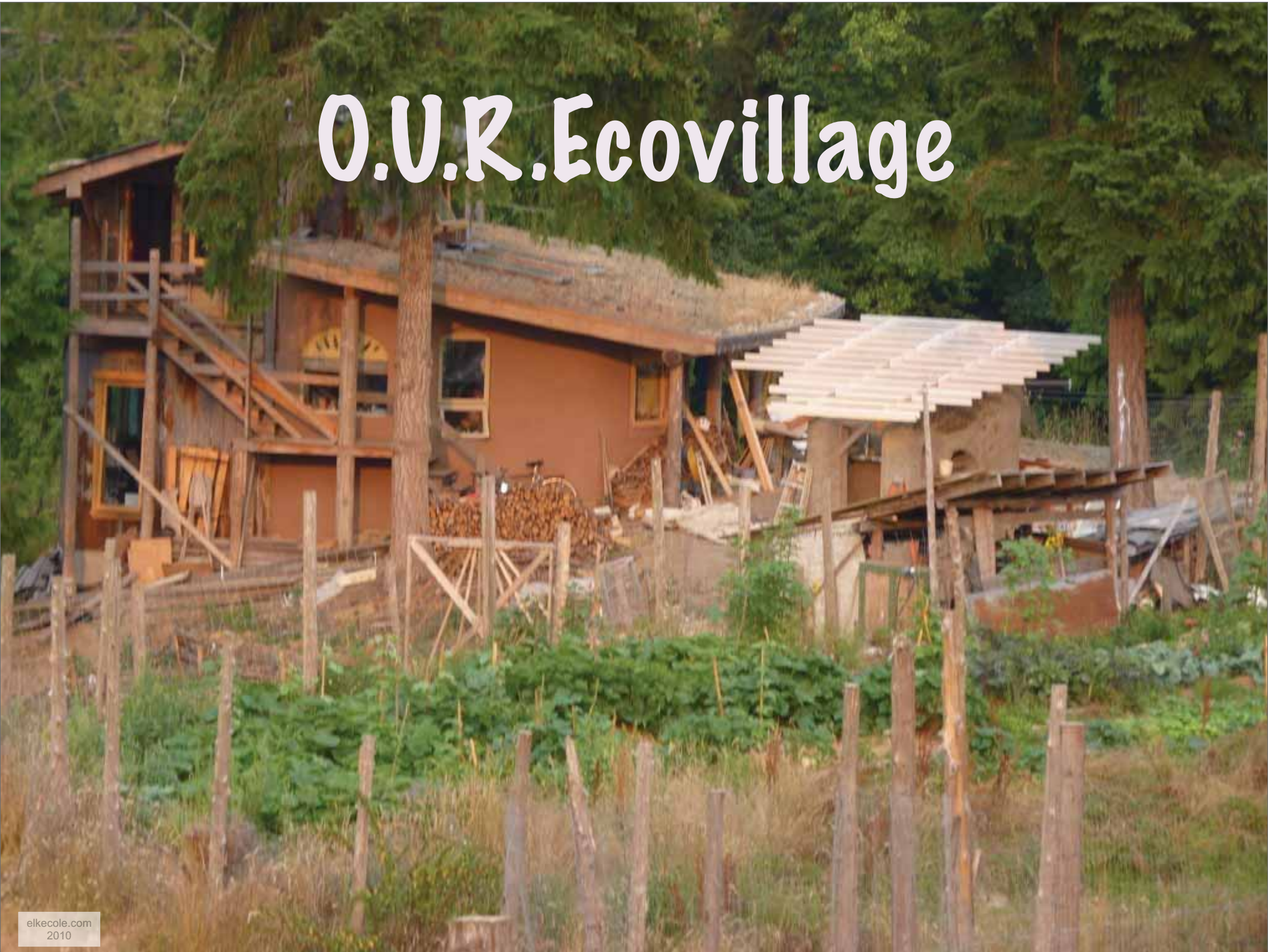
the hybrid house



- combining for maximum benefits:
- insulate the North side
 - thermal mass to the south
 - light weight on top



O.V.R. Ecovillage



O.V.R. Ecovillage



demonstration site and education centre

O.V.R. Ecovillage



permaculture

demonstration site and education centre

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natural building

permaculture

demonstration site and education centre

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natural building

sustainable food

permaculture

demonstration site and education centre

O.U.R. Ecovillage

community building

natural building

sustainable food

permaculture

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How to get help



- * take a workshop
- * early connection with building department
- * work with professional to plan
- * host a workshop



Thank you



- * www.elkecole.com
- * www.ourecovillage.org
- * www.greenplan.ca
- * www.nbnetwork.org
- * www.cobworks.com