

Eco design series opens with 'Pollywogg Holler'

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AU alumnus Bill Castle will give the first lecture of the 2004 Center for Environmental and Energy Research Fall Eco Design Series on Wednesday, Sept. 29 in Powell Campus Center's Nevins Theater at 12:15 p.m. His presentation is titled "Designing and Building Pollywogg Holler." In 1976, Castle and his family began construction of Pollywogg Holler, hoping to build a home that would be in keeping with their commitment to maintain harmony with nature. The Castles succeeded and created a structure that features solar electricity, a compostable recycling system, organic gardening and gravity fed spring water. A decade after construction began, Pollywogg Holler was opened as an eco-resort, and has since enjoyed continual growth. The Castles are currently embarking upon a long-awaited expansion. They recently added two spring water-fed ponds and plan to take advantage of their secluded location by installing a sauna-equipped guest house, several guest cabins and a water theme park. Throughout the expansion process, the Castles plan to continue their utilization of "green thinking" and employ the techniques and technologies that will continue Pollywogg Holler's harmonious relationship with nature. On Saturday, Oct. 2, Pollywogg Holler will once again be part of the Green Buildings Open House organized by the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association. The lecture is open to the public, with a discussion slated to follow the presentation.