



## South Central RC&D



### Value Added Use of Straw for Straw Bale Houses

Tribal communities hope to be on the leading edge of true sustainability, a future in which they can depend on their own natural resources and their own trained workforce to address the critical need for affordable homes. The use of excess straw to build straw bale homes and other buildings that are economically affordable and energy efficient was the goal of this educational workshop hosted by South Central RC&D Council in Murdo, SD on June 25, 2009. Laura Bartels from Green Weaver Company and Bob Gough (Native Energy) emphasized the scenic and history of straw bale buildings, covered some construction designs and compared the energy efficiency performances of straw bale building to conventionally made houses and buildings. This workshop was enhanced by a “Train the Trainers Program” hosted by Sinte Gleska University in Mission, SD during which students participated in the construction phases of a straw bale house located on the Antelope campus of Sinte Gleska University in Mission, SD.

#### Partners

- Intertribal Council On Utility Policy (COUP)
- Green Weaver
- Sinte Gleska University
- South Dakota State University
- North Dakota State University

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