

Spectacular aquariums, terrariums within reach

Inside or out, Eric Czerw's firm, Bio-Fusion Designs, gives home owners a perfect way to enhance their properties with environmental creativity a key to every project. An artist who works with living mediums, from tropical plants to fish, Czerw develops aquariums, terrariums and similar botanical displays for offices and homes.

A Clifton Park resident, Czerw earned a bachelor's degree from SUNY Cobleskill with an emphasis on fisheries, biology and aquaculture, in addition to wildlife management and wetlands science.

His environmental design experience includes a stint at Boston's New England Aquarium, where he developed an aquaculture exhibit for the Association of Zoos and Aquariums national conference.

Now, he brings those same skills into people's homes and work places.

Czerw also creates outside ponds and water-related yard displays, some stocked with ornamental fish at many residential settings. In some cases, he's designed and built elaborate artificial streams and waterfalls enhanced by unusual illuminations.

"I have a true love for this," he said. "My ultimate goal is to have people realize what I do as truly an art form. I just saw this growing demand. This industry hasn't reached its pinnacle. I want to be there, to be a pioneer and creator of the most amazing things people have seen with aquariums and ponds.

"There's a way to do it and a way not to do it. I'm always looking for the end result. Everything we do, we do with ease of maintenance in mind."

Doors, windows can be environmentally friendly

Empire Building Products is a perfect fit at the Environmental Expo for a very good reason.

"We only deal with vendors who sell products made by manufacturers that embrace sustainable components and green initiatives," owner Denny Giantomasi said. "In my 20 years experience in the window and door industry, I have come across some excellent products made by dedicated people who have created items for high quality lifestyles. We only carry products that are innovative, handsome, extremely well made and have industry-leading service and support."

Empire Building Products offers a variety of high quality windows, doors and hardware for the luxury home and light commercial markets.

The firm occupies an old schoolhouse on Spring Street in Schuylerville, featuring a Loewen Window Center of Upstate New York showroom. The showroom is the only

one in upstate New York, and the only one in New York state outside of Long Island. Last summer, it was highlighted in the Capital Region edition of Builder/Architect magazine.

Made of beautiful and strong Douglas fir, clad/wood windows and doors by Loewen offer the very latest in design innovation and energy efficiency technology while maintaining old-world craftsmanship and style. Douglas fir, in itself, is a renewable resource.

Loewen's high level of thermal performance and the company's commitment to environmental practices are part of its billing as a "green" company.

Empire Building Products also deals with Yarrow Sash & Door, Rocky Mountain Hardware, Kas-Kel vinyl prime windows, Select Door, REEB Millwork Corp., Golden Windows, Ashley Norton hardware, Sillites electric plug-in candles and Hoppe Hardware.

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