



Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor

Michael Richard
Director

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GOVERNOR EHRLICH PRAISES HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND ITS FAMILIES

Praising the “sweat equity” that families devote to their Habitat for Humanity homes, Maryland Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. on Saturday, Feb. 14, recognized the Arundel Habitat for Humanity for its dedicated work as well as incorporating energy efficient practices during home construction.

Governor Ehrlich toured the new Annapolis home of Vincent and Shavon Scott before unveiling an Advanced Lighting Package – ENERGY STAR light fixtures and bulbs – granted to the Scotts and their three sons. The Governor also presented ENERGY STAR compact fluorescent light bulbs to Arundel Habitat for use in the homes it is building this year.

“I am pleased to be able to present these fixtures to the Scotts, who have worked hard to build their home,” Governor Ehrlich told a crowd of 40 attending the morning event. “This family’s involvement is a great example of one of the most important criteria for becoming a Habitat family. Each family must complete a required amount of sweat equity before they can move into their home. The Scott family and their children will never forget the work they put into building their own home.

“Habitat’s good works,” he added, “strengthen our communities. Habitat has earned our praise for those efforts and for using energy efficient construction practices.”

The Governor, who is the Maryland ENERGY STAR Program’s official spokesman, was introduced by Michael T. Richard, Director of the Maryland Energy Administration MEA arranged for the grant through its Maryland ENERGY STAR Program. ENERGY STAR partner Rexel of Annapolis and Sea Gull Lighting also helped arrange the grant. The ENERGY STAR Advanced Lighting Package is a lighting upgrade that will reduce cooling loads and electric bills and, due to increased lamp life, cut maintenance and replacement costs.

As a result of the hard work of the Scott family and the Habitat construction staff, led by site construction managers Pat Callen and Steve Smith, the Scotts’ home has qualified as ENERGY STAR certified. To earn that designation, a home must be 30% more efficient for heating, cooling and water heating than homes built to the national energy code.

In addition to Habitat volunteers and families, also in attendance were Bill Torgerson, Vice Chairman and General Counsel of Pepco Holding Inc., Lori Morris, a board member of the Prince George’s Community College Trustees, Mary Lou Kueffer of the Maryland Department of Human Resources, and Ira Geller of Geller Lighting Supply and Craig Drumheller of the National Association of Home Builders Research Center.

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