Introduction to Building with Straw
Friday, March 17th, 8:00 – 4:00

Learn the basics of building with straw and what makes these long-lasting buildings both beautiful and energy efficient!

During this fast-paced one-day presentation and hands-on workshop participants will learn about the building science behind straw homes, and different details that determine aesthetics and drive cost. We’ll also discuss structural design considerations—what makes these buildings stand up to high winds and earthquakes?

While working on a small straw bale building that employs different framing and infill systems, participants will evaluate straw bales suitable for construction, and shape, size, and place bales in the wall. Demonstrations include insulating sill plates, running electrical and plumbing, air sealing techniques, plaster preparation and lathing, and more.

Finally, we’ll mix and apply a first (scratch) coat of clay plaster to a wall.

Learn the steps needed to take a house made of straw from design to completion! Based on the California Straw Building Association’s Straw Bale Building Details: An Illustrated Guide for Design and Construction, and taught by experienced builders, this compact, intensive, hands-on workshop will help make your project a success! Space is limited, so sign up soon for this comprehensive, one-day event!

* This event takes place at a location in Nevada City, not too far from the conference site. Further details will be provided to those who register.