Built in conjunction with World Environment Day 2005, ScrapHouse illustrates the possibilities, as well as the challenges, of green building, recycling, and reuse. ScrapHouse is about much more than the materials though; it's the product of unprecedented collaboration between local architects, artists, builders, contractors, and engineers," said Laurence Kornfield, chief building inspector for the City of San Francisco, who pitched the idea to Public Architecture in mid-April. The concept of ScrapHouse was conceived by a local documentary filmmaker, Anna Fitch, who came in contact with Kornfield, and soon after, Public Architecture.

Over the course of just six weeks, an eclectic team of volunteers scoured Bay Area dumps and scrap yards, often discovering unused materials with the price tags still affixed. A group of architects, interior designers, landscape architects, lighting specialists, and metal fabricators gave these materials new life and ScrapHouse its final shape. Based on their design, ScrapHouse has all the amenities of a traditional American home: a kitchen, a bathroom, two bedrooms, a deck, and beautifully landscaped yard. The design is intentionally bold: an L-shaped layout, with a mezzanine-level bedroom, and a roof inverted like the wings of a butterfly.

Still, what is most intriguing about ScrapHouse is the creative use of previously discarded materials—most of which were destined for the landfill. On one wall, 500 old phonebooks, stacked vertically, provide both insulation and texture. Another room’s floor is tiled with leather scraps, leftover from upholstery jobs. For landscaping, day-old flowers from local outlets surround the house in hundreds of tiny vases cut from garden hoses, which protrude from the green grass lawn. (http://www.scraphouse.org/pressrelease)

**LINKS:**
To Eco-friendly eyes, No Such Thing as Trash (Hill, 2005)
From: San Francisco Chronicle, June 4, 2005: [http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2005/06/04/BAG6ED3LC01.DTL](http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/c/a/2005/06/04/BAG6ED3LC01.DTL)

Professional, Visitor, 3D, Construction, and Site Photos: [http://www.scraphouse.org/Gallery](http://www.scraphouse.org/Gallery)

**MORE SCRAP HOUSES:**
Rural Studio Cardboard Pod: [http://cadc.auburn.edu/soa/rural%2Dstudio/projects_cardboardpod.htm](http://cadc.auburn.edu/soa/rural%2Dstudio/projects_cardboardpod.htm)
IMAGES:

Interior Views (2005)

Exterior and Material Detail (2005)
Interior Stair and Chandelier (2005)