

# starmag

4/1/09 Sun The Star



Bloomberg News

## Going green in 2009

Malaysia's kicking off the new year in green style: yesterday, we introduced the Green Building Index, similar to the ones that have helped create the environmentally friendly features pictured here. Find out why this long-awaited building tool is so necessary – and how it will help us save money. >SM4



Clockwise from top left: A view of the roof gardens increasingly found on Australian buildings in the middle of cities; a new prototype compact house built by Global Green in America featuring a geothermal well system to naturally cool it; having grassy berms alongside sidewalks helps retain water runoff and lessens the possibility of floods. – Photos courtesy of Dr TAN LOKE MUN