



The Intelligent Home Owner

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOME STREET HOME IMPROVERS

Offices In Northeast Minneapolis & St. Louis Park

Issue: April 2005

WE'RE ON THE WEB! HOMESTREETIMPROVERS.COM

"Sharing the knowledge to help you care for your home."

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Who is NARI®

Remodeling Today Spring/Summer 2005

The National Association of the Remodeling Industry is a not-for-profit professional trade association whose members are dedicated to assuring the consumer has a positive remodeling experience.

NARI is committed to enhancing the professionalism of the remodeling industry and serving as an ally to homeowners.

NARI encourages ethical conduct, sound business practices, and professionalism in the remodeling industry.

Home Street Home Improvers is a member of NARI.

Did Winter Take Its Toll on Your Concrete? Now's the Perfect Time to Plan Those Concrete Replacement Projects

If this winter's freezing and thawing took its toll on your concrete steps, walks and driveways, now is the perfect time to plan on replacing them.

Spring is upon us and Home Street offers a full line of concrete services. We specialize in tear outs, grading, new driveways, garage slabs, walks, steps, patios, shed slabs, etc....

We work closely with the Ready Mixed Concrete producer so that the mix meets our placing and finishing requirements.

The characteristics of the concrete mix are most important. There are a number of control tests that

can be done to sample fresh concrete for optimum quality. ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials) governs these tests which looks for variations in air content, water content and compressive strength.

Without the proper air content, normal concrete that is exposed to freeze/thaw cycles will scale and spall resulting in a durability failure of the concrete.

We use a 4,000 PSI commercial grade fiber mesh on all applications. We also rebar ring all perimeters for added strength. Fiber mesh is generally used for the purpose of reducing surface cracks.

To accommodate the expansion and contraction of concrete, control joints are typically added to allow the concrete to crack in these locations instead of random locations.

Depending on your circumstances, we may also add welded wire fabric to slabs for the purpose of preventing cracks from opening.

If you're finally tired of looking at that chipped and cracked concrete, call Home Street. We'll help you restore the beauty and safety to your paved areas.

(100% bank financing available on approved credit)

Visit Home Street At These Upcoming Events

Become inspired for your next home improvement project! Stop by and visit us at any of these upcoming home improvement shows, fairs and expos:

3rd Annual Rising to New Heights Housing Fair
Sunday, April 3, 8a—3p
Columbia Heights High School
1400 49th Ave., Col. Hgts
(The Col. Hgts. Fire Explorers will also be holding their annual pancake breakfast from

7a—2p in the cafeteria. Home Street will be giving away free breakfast tickets throughout the day).

Business "After Hours" Expo, Wednesday, April 6, 5—7:30 p.m. at Jax Café, Cosmopolitan Room, 1928 University Ave. NE. This is your opportunity to network with local service providers and representatives from area businesses. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres, cash bar.

Admission is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Northeast Minneapolis and the North Metro Chambers of Commerce.

3rd Annual Northeast Expo 2005 & Handyman's Flea Market
Saturday, April 16, 10a—3p
Northeast Middle School
2955 Hayes St. NE. Sponsored the Northeast Community Development Corporation.

PO BOX 16145
ST. LOUIS PARK, MN 55416-9998

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This Month's Waiting Pet: "Libby"

We, at Home Street, are life-long animal lovers. It is our hope that, through the vast network of our customers and their friends, families and co-workers, we may find homes for these waiting pets. Please post this article at your workplace and place of worship, and share the news of these pets with people you know who may be able to provide a loving home. Thank you.



This month's pet, "Libby" is currently sheltered through Lucky Dog Rescue. She's a 6 year old purebred German Shepherd and she's truly a gem! We love her personality and her energy! She adores playing with other dogs

although she is not all that fond of cats. She is spayed and housebroken and would love to find a new family to call her very own! If you'd like more information on Libby, please call Rita at 763-560-6854. Or call 763-585-

560-6854. Or call 763-585-6160 and leave a message, or email:

PickMe@luckydogrescuemn.com. A volunteer will reply within 48 hours.

Lucky Dog Rescue absolutely DOES NOT place any of its dogs outside the Minneapolis/St. Paul Metropolitan area. If you do not live in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area, please contact your local shelter to inquire about adopting a dog in your area.

Lucky Dog Rescue Foundation also DBA: German Shepherd Breed Rescue of MN
P.O. Box 43734

Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

See other pets at www.petfinder.org.

Please consider the time, commitment and money required to responsibly care for a pet

Attn: Angie's List Members

If you are an Angie's List member, don't forget to log on at www.AngiesList.com to rate your experience with Home Street Home Improvers.

Companies do not pay to be on Angie's List. All of the information collected on Angie's List comes from actual consumers of products and services.

Angie's List has ratings on over 20,000 service companies, and more than 132,000 homeowners use Angie's List.

"Green" Cleaning Tips—Save \$\$, Too!

Americans spend millions of dollars a year on cleaning supplies. This spring, make your own cleaning agents with these recipes from EarthShare and Earth Ways, two nonprofit environmental organizations. The recipes are friendly to the environment and your bank account.

Countertops, cupboards, and walls: Dip a cloth in warm water, then add dish soap and baking soda (the baking soda serves as a soft abrasive to remove tough spots and light scratches).

Air fresheners: Simmer a small amount of cinnamon, orange peel, and cloves on the stove to give off a pleasant fragrance in your home.

Glass cleaner: Mix 2 tablespoons borax or washing soda with three cups of water for sparkling windows and mirrors.

Furniture polish: Combine 1/2 cup lemon juice to 1 cup vegetable oil, olive oil, or mayonnaise. Apply to rag.

Carpet freshener: Sprinkle dry cornstarch or baking soda on the carpet and vacuum.

More cleaning tips:

When you buy cleaning products, look for ones that are non-toxic, biodegradable, phosphate-free, and chlorine-free.

Use natural fiber sponges. Reduce paper use. Use rags instead of paper towels and cloth napkins instead of paper napkins.

Source: www.houseandhome.msn.com

Contact Us: Vince Leeson, Owner 612.490.7671
Email: vince@homestreetimprovers.com

Website: www.HomeStreetImprovers.com

Newsletter Editor: Shelley Leeson
shelley@homestreetimprovers.com