



The Intelligent Home Owner

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOME STREET HOME IMPROVERS

Offices In Northeast Minneapolis & St. Louis Park

Issue: May 2006

WE'RE ON THE WEB! HOMESTREETIMPROVERS.COM

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

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More NARI Code of Ethics

Remodeling Today, Spring/Summer 2006

Members of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry pledge to observe the highest ethical standards in running their business.

In part, NARI professionals commit to the following:

- Promote only products and services that are functional, economical and safe.
- Make all advertising and sales promotions factually accurate and avoid any practices that tend to mislead or deceive the customer.
- Write all contracts and warranties so they are clear, fair and mutually beneficial to all concerned parties.

Home Street is a member of NARI.

Is It Time To Replace Your Windows?

After battling drafts and paying high energy bills this past winter, you may be contemplating whether you should replace your old windows. Answer these questions to help you determine if now is the right time for an update.

- Are your current windows only single-pane?
- Is the glazing material cracked, broken or missing?
- Do your windows leak? Can you feel airflow at the edges of the panes, or around the window frame? (Tip: Move a lit incense stick around the window and its frame and watch for air movement).
- Are the sashes loose or do they rattle? Are the sash cords broken?

- Do you have moisture build up on windows? Are your windows or frames rotted, or do they have areas of mold or mildew?
- Are your windows nailed or painted shut? (This is a clear safety issue).
- Are you in need of a style or function change?

If you answered yes to three or more of these questions, it may be time to replace your worn out windows.

Actually, in almost every case, single-pane windows are reason enough for replacement. The energy rating on a single-pane window might be as low as R-1; new replacement windows can be as high as R-10.

Home Street offers replacement windows from a variety of manufacturers including Pella, Alside, Taylor, Marvin and more.

Replacement windows are available in every operator type, including single- and double-hung, casement, horizontal slider, fixed, picture, and patio slider. And, they are manufactured with most common frame materials, including aluminum, fiberglass, vinyl, and wood.

Keep in mind that Energy Star® labeled products are twice as efficient as the average windows manufactured just 10 years ago.

Contact Home Street to evaluate your windows.

Sources: EnergyStar.gov
Replacement Contractor, February 2005

Installer Profile: Jim Lang and Tom Hennessey

Home Street's window and door installers, Jim Lang and Tom Hennessey, have been in the window and door installation business for 35 years. Their commitment to the industry, their experience, and their level of professionalism are in line with Home Street's business philosophy - integrity, follow-through

and complete customer satisfaction.

Jim and Tom have been performing all of Home Street's window and door installations for close to five years.

At Home Street, we really appreciate the working relationship we have with Jim and Tom, and they fully understand and adhere to Home Street's

standards of quality workmanship and commitment to exceed customer expectations.

Wow! Home Street has paid out over **\$3,400** in Referral Rewards!

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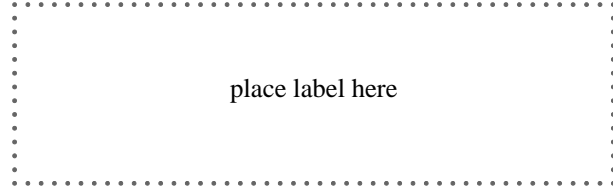
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This Month's Waiting Pet: "Splash"

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, "Splash" is currently being fostered through Homeward Bound Rescue. She is about 1½, 75 lb. Aussie/Shepherd mix.

Splash is an intelligent pooch who would absolutely love the challenges of agility or obedience. She watches your face a lot to see what you expect of her, and oftentimes before you even finish saying the word "sit" she is already in the perfect sit position, eagerly waiting for your next command. Splash would

do best in a cat-free household with older children. She gets along well with other dogs, is house trained, crate trained, and hasn't been barky at her foster home. To answer your questions about Splash, email Megan at homewardbounddogrescue@yahoo.com.

Homeward Bound has been in existence for over 10 years and has rescued over 9,500 dogs, cats, and other animals. They are a private, nonprofit, no-kill organization concerned with the welfare of dogs and other animals.

To donate or view info about their weekly pet adoptions or to view other animals available, visit www.homewardboundrescue.com.

Home Maintenance Information:

The property maintenance codes of most cities require that home exteriors be properly maintained. The problems listed below represent violations most city property maintenance codes that must be corrected.

- Peeling paint or bare wood
- Broken windows
- Rotted fascia boards

Seven Tips for a Better Relationship with Your Remodeling Contractor

NARI says, follow these tips and make life during a home remodel a little easier:

- Before work begins, sit down with your contractor and discuss details that will affect your daily routine. For example, ask that the workers do not block the driveway without checking whether the homeowner's car is out of the garage. Also, find out what their schedule will be so you know what to expect, and if the schedule falls behind, be sure to ask why.
- Be honest with your contractor about your expectations. Open communication establishes trust and is the basis of a good working relationship. Discuss problems or irritations as they occur so you and your contractor can

devise alternative solutions.

- Let your contractor know if you are planning a vacation or business trip so they can adjust their schedule. If they'll be working while you are away, give them a phone number so they can reach you in case there is a question.
- Allow plenty of time for your project, keeping in mind that delays due to weather, material shortage or other problems cannot be predicted ahead of time.
- Remove your personal property from the construction areas, and declare all work zones off limits to children and pets.
- Always put changes in writing, especially if the plans are modified while the work is being

done. Have both parties agree on the changes and sign a written copy of them before the work begins. And remember, changes will often cause delays, so if you decide a change is in order, be patient with the extended timeline.

- Keep all paperwork related to the job in one place so that if there are any questions on the plans, you have an easy reference for clarification.

And remember, be patient and keep your mind on the end result.

For more helpful tips and information, visit www.nari.org

Source: www.NARI.org

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