



The Intelligent Home Owner

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOME STREET HOME IMPROVERS

Offices In Northeast Minneapolis & St. Louis Park

Issue: July 2006

WE'RE ON THE WEB! HOMESTREETIMPROVERS.COM

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

We Appreciate Our Loyal Customers!

Inside this issue:

We Appreciate Our Loyal Customers	1
Get Grilling with Home Street's Referral Rewards!	1
Remodeling 101	1
Codes and Permits	2
Roof Check Up Guide for Home Owners from NRCA	2
This Month's Waiting Pet: "Sasha"	2

Remodeling 101

Source: National Association of Remodeling Industry, www.NariMN.org

The following is a list of points to research when choosing a remodeling contractor. The list will help you determine a contractor's reputation, quality of work, project scheduling, and experience.

- Call the Minnesota Department of Commerce (651) 296-4026 to verify that the remodeler is licensed by the State of Minnesota. The license number should appear on all printed material supplied by the contractor.
- Find out whether the remodeler is a member in good standing with the Better Business Bureau, and whether he or she is a member of NARI or another builders association.
- Request a list of recently completed projects. Make sure the remodeler provides you with a diverse portfolio, and doesn't merely specialize in one or two areas of remodeling. The remodeler should include at least two projects for consideration that are similar to your own.

Take the time to interview potential remodelers rather than simply soliciting bids. The interview process will allow you to determine whether you and the remodeler communicate well, whether his or her bid reflects your needs and expectations, and whether the remodeler is an individual you will feel comfortable having in and around your home.

Home Street is a member of NARI.

At Home Street, we pride ourselves in the trusted relationships we build with our customers, many of whom are our own neighbors, and others who have even become friends.

Twenty-seven percent of Home Street's new jobs are for folks who've had Home Street complete a previous home improvement project for them. In fact, several customers have completed multiple home improvement projects with Home Street.

Tracy T. from St. Louis Park is one of those customers. She has had six home improvement projects completed by Home Street since 2003. Tracy's had everything from roofing to windows to a new garage door installed

by Home Street.

As a further testament to the trust that home owners have in Home Street is the fact that twenty-five percent of Home Street's *new* customers have come as referrals from our previous customers.

Home owners don't refer their friends and neighbors to professionals whom they don't trust to do quality work. Our customers refer their friends and neighbors to Home Street because of our professionalism, attention to detail and complete personal service to each and every home owner.

From the first meeting to the final review of the completed project, the owner of the company,

Vince Leeson, is hands-on at virtually every customer's project. Our customers always have a direct phone number to Vince, as well, should they have any questions while the job is in progress.

Home Street also prides itself on our complete follow-through and timely completion of projects.

Since we live in the neighborhoods where we perform most of our jobs, we want to build relationships that last. Our customers come back because they know they can count on our professionalism and quality work.

Thank you to all of our loyal customers!

Get Grilling with Home Street's Referral Rewards!

Home Street has delivered over **100 pounds** of the finest meats and **thousands of dollars** to folks who have referred others to Home Street for their home improvement projects!

Through our Referral Rewards program, you can earn gift cards for gas, grill packs from Ready Meats®, and Home Street Bucks®, which you can redeem for

fun getaways or products and services to improve your home.

Gas card Rewards begin as soon as the person you refer meets for an in-home consultation with Home Street, and it gets better from there!

If the person you referred completes a project over \$2,500 with Home Street, we will Reward YOU with

enough meat to keep you grilling all through the summer. *PLUS*, you will earn Home Street Bucks equal to the dollar amount of the project.

It couldn't be simpler!

**Home Street
has paid out over
\$3,900 in
Referral Rewards!**

PO BOX 16145
ST. LOUIS PARK, MN 55416-9998
Offices in Northeast Minneapolis & St. Louis Park

The Intelligent Home Owner

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOME STREET HOME IMPROVERS

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
HOMESTREETIMPROVERS.COM

Home Street
HOME STREET
AFFORDABLE
HOME IMPROVERS
612-490-7671

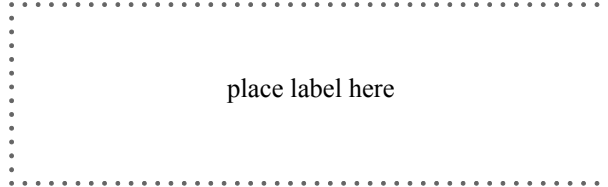
2005
Angies list
Super Service
AWARD



Issue: July 2006



PRSR STD
US POSTAGE PAID
MINNEAPOLIS, MN
PERMIT NO. 31222



This Month's Waiting Pet: "Sasha"

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, "Sasha" is currently housed at the Animal Humane Society of Golden Valley. Sasha is a 68 lb. German Shepherd/Hound mix, approximately 6 years old, ID # 271282.

Sasha was found as a stray, so not much is known about her previous environment. Her vet exam indicates that she appears to be in good health. She has received up to date vaccinations and a heartworm check. Sasha is spayed and has received a new microchip in case she's ever lost again.

To inquire about adopting Sasha or another pet that needs a loving home, contact the AHS/GV at 763.489.2201, email adopt@animalhumanesociety.org or visit them at 845 Meadow Lane North, Golden Valley.

Consider volunteering at the AHS. People are needed to foster dogs and cats that are still nursing babies, or litters of puppies/kittens to young for adoption. Volunteers also needed for grooming, dog training, adoption, reception, shelter tours and more. Visit their website at www.ahshc.org or call 763.489.2205 to find out how you can help.

Codes and Permits

Most cities, towns, and counties establish building codes that may differ considerably from one jurisdiction to another. A building permit is generally required whenever structural work is involved, or upon modification of the basic use of domestic space. For example, finishing a basement (or even a portion thereof) will require a building permit in most jurisdictions because the room's primary use will change from storage to "livable" space.

We must all abide by code and permit requirements in order to maintain and preserve quality housing stock in our cities. A remodeling project is only as good as the quality of the work, and the underlying integrity of the structure on which the home improvement is being made.

Building codes are in place for a variety of reasons, not the least of which is safety. Improperly installed products may not only compromise the integrity of your home, they may pose serious safety hazards. Always be sure to pull permits and have your work inspected.

Source: www.narimn.org

Roof Check Up Guide for Home Owners from NRCA

Inspect your roof system periodically to help diagnose potential problems early.

Important ladder safety tips:

- Make sure the ladder is on solid, level ground.
- Secure the ladder at top to prevent slipping.
- Inspect the ladder, rungs and rails for damage.
- Extend the ladder at least 3 feet beyond the gutter, and angle it 1 foot back from the house for every 4 feet in eave height.
- Always use both hands when climbing.

Once on the ladder, you should look for:

- Shingles that are buckling, curling or blistering; this indicates the end of the shingles' life expectancy.
- Loose material or wear around chimneys, pipes and other penetrations.

- Excessive amounts of shingle granules in your gutters; granules give shingles added weight and protect them from ultraviolet rays.

Before you hire a roofing contractor, do your homework:

- Check for a contractor's permanent place of business, telephone number and tax identification number.
- Check references from prior customers.
- Ask for proof of insurance (liability and workers' compensation).
- Ask the contractor about material and workmanship warranties.

If you diagnose a problem, hire a professional roofing contractor.

Source: Nat'l Roofing Contractors Assn., www.nrca.net

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

Website: www.HomeStreetImprovers.com

Newsletter Editor: Shelley Leeson
shelley@homestreetimprovers.com