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Supporting Building Industry Professionals & Serving as a Respected Community Resource.

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#### PA **HOME** +GARDEN SHOW

**MARCH 2-5, 2023** 

PA FARM SHOW COMPLEX

PAHomeShow.com

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Publisher: Hoffmann Publishing Group, Inc. 2669 Shillington Road, Box 438, Reading, PA 19608 610.685.0914











#### **SHOW HOURS**

**THURSDAY** 

March 2, 12 pm - 8 pm

**FRIDAY** 

March 3, 10 am - 8 pm

**SATURDAY** 

March 4, 10 am - 8 pm

**SUNDAY** 

March 5, 10 am - 6 pm

#### **LOCATION**

PA Farm Show Complex, Main Hall Maclay Street Entrance 2300 North Cameron Street (Cameron & Maclay Streets) Harrisburg, PA 17110

#### **TICKETS**

Adults (box office March 2-5): \$11 Adults (online through March 1): \$9 Children ages 12 and under: Free

\*\*Advance Adult Admission will be at the \$9 discounted rate through 3/1/23. Starting opening day of the show the price will increase to \$11 online, same as box office pricing.

#### Buy ONLINE & SAVE \$4 Use promo code GUIDE PAHomeShow.com

Valid on regular adult admission only. Valid throughout the show.

#### Special Ticket Promotions

**Hero Day - Friday, March 3:** All active military personnel, veterans, first responders, nurses, doctors, teachers and school employees receive one FREE admission with a valid ID at the box office.

#### Senior Day - Thursday, March 2:

Guests ages 60+ receive a \$3 discount off regular adult admission price. Senior admission price is \$8 on March 2 at the box office ONLY. Not valid with any other offers.

#### **ONLINE**

www.PAHomeShow.com

@PAHomeAndGarden

@pahomeandgarden/

#### Welcome!

Marketplace Events is excited to be the new producer of this show. It's our mission to connect you with the most qualified home and garden professionals, and provide the product and service resources that will help you realize your home improvement goals.

This year, we are pleased to offer approximately 150 exhibitors, experts and designers, all sharing their knowledge and the latest trends, in order to provide you with an abundance of design inspiration, valuable tips and new ideas.



We invite you to stroll through the expanded garden displays, explore some innovative living spaces, and support local artists, crafters and vendors in our three specialty market areas.

Thank you for coming, and enjoy the show!

Sincerely, Jenna Naffin Show Manager

#### THANK YOU TO OUR SHOW SPONSORS AND PARTNERS!



















## YOU'VE GOTTA SHOW SEE THIS!





#### FEATURE GARDENS & OUTDOOR LIVING

Escape the cold and welcome Spring with a stroll through the Garden Area's inspirational gardens, water gardens and outdoor living exhibits from some of the region's top landscapers. Check out the new techniques, ideas and must-have products from A.H. Reiff Landscape Supply, Burdge's Water Gardens and Jesse James Hardscaping.



#### **POP-UP FLOWER MARKET & FERN MOBILE PLANT SHOP**

Bring a taste of Spring home with you! Select from an abundance of fresh, colorful blooms from Hydrangea Haus' Pop-Up Flower Market, and plants and garden decor from Ashcombe Farm & Greenhouses' unique Fern mobile plant shop, both located in the Garden Area.





#### **WINE GARDEN**

Take a leisurely break while visiting the Garden Area and stop by Juniata Valley Winery's relaxing Wine Garden, where you can sample (and purchase) some of their locally-produced wines.

#### **LET IT GROW!**

Located near the Garden Area, Let it Grow! is where visitors have the unique opportunity to get their questions answered and learn from the experts from the Penn State Extension of the Master Gardeners, the PA Hardwoods Development Council, the Governor's Invasive Species Council, and other horticultural groups.



#### **CONTAINER CREATIONS**

Rethink your own space needs and get inspired when you see these shipping containers that have been repurposed into innovative, functional rooms by Recon Recycled Container Systems. They are more than just eco-friendly spaces – they are recycled luxury.



#### HARRISBURG'S HOMEGROWN MARKET

Here's your unique shopping opportunity for one-of-a-kind home décor and gifts. Enjoy the open market-style area featuring artisans and retailers offering antiques, original artwork, and homemade and finely-crafted items.



#### **MAIN STAGE**

Don't miss special Main Stage appearances by celebrity guest expert **Kevin O'Connor,** host of award-winning PBS television shows *This Old House* and *Ask This Old House*: Friday, March 3 at 6 pm Saturday, March 4 at 1 pm

Gain the insights of experienced home and garden industry professionals who are giving talks on the Main Stage throughout the show (see schedule on page 8)





#### WHISKEY BACKYARD

Hazard's Distillery has created a fun spot to stop and play some backyard games, where you can also sample (and purchase) some of their hand-crafted, locally-produced libations.



#### **DESIGN YOUR DREAMS**

Often, the bedroom is an overlooked opportunity to express your own design style, and realize your relaxation goals. Ethan Allen is here to show you how to achieve bedroom bliss, with bedroom designs that marry function with style.

#### THE BARKING LOT

Don't forget your furry, four-legged pals! The Barking Lot pet market has all the toys, treats and accessories you'll want to bring home to them, with a portion of all sales being donated to Canine Rescue of Central PA.



## SHOW OFFERS & EVENTS

(Events take place on the Main Stage. Presentation times and topics are subject to change.)

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 2

SENIOR DAY

All show visitors age 60 and over receive a \$3 discount on admission at the box office (with valid ID).



## FRIDAY, MARCH 3 HERO DAY

All active and retired military, first responders, nurses, doctors and teachers get one free admission at the box office (with valid ID).



## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AND PARTNERSHIPS IN CONSTRUCTION TRADES 2 PM & 5 PM

Robert Brightbill, Program Instructor with Dauphin County Technical School and Christopher Patrick, President of Bob Means Plumbing

#### **KEVIN O'CONNOR - 6 PM**

Celebrity guest expert,
Kevin O'Connor, host of PBS
television's award-winning shows
This Old House and Ask This Old
House, provides sneak previews
of new projects that will be seen
in the show's upcoming season,
and behind-the-scenes videos
and stories, followed by audience
questions.



## SATURDAY, MARCH 4 UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF A LOG AND TIMBER HOME - 11 AM

Andrew Harter, Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes

#### **DOGGIE FASHION SHOW - 12 PM**

You will definitely want to see the adorable and adoptable dogs from Canine Rescue of Central PA strutting in style onstage, in hopes of finding their fur-ever homes.



#### **KEVIN O'CONNOR - 1 PM**

Celebrity guest expert Kevin O'Connor, host of PBS television's award-winning shows *This Old House* and *Ask This Old House*, provides sneak previews of new projects that will be seen in the show's upcoming season, and behind-the-scenes videos and stories, followed by audience questions.

#### THE REAL ESTATE MARKET TODAY, AN ASK THE EXPERT PANEL - 2:30 PM

Nicholas Feagley, REALTOR & The Feagley Team

## REAL AMERICAN HARDWOOD: PENNSYLVANIA'S FOREST, INDUSTRY AND WOOD PRODUCTS - 3:30 PM

Matt Gabler, Pennsylvania Forest Products Association

## SUNDAY, MARCH 5 UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF A LOG AND TIMBER HOME - 12 PM

Andrew Harter, Timberhaven Log & Timber Homes

#### REAL AMERICAN HARDWOOD: PENNSYLVANIA'S FOREST, INDUSTRY AND WOOD PRODUCTS - 1 PM

Jonathan Geyer, PA Dept. of Agriculture | Hardwoods Development Council

#### **HOW'S YOUR WATER? - 2PM**

Nick Roth, Negley's Water



## AND THE COMMUNITY



#### **AMERICAN RED CROSS**

Through a partnership with the American Red Cross, we invited people to register via the PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW website to donate blood during a blood drive at the show on March 2. Each donor received two free admissions to the show, and we thank them for helping to save lives with their donations.



of Central PA, Inc.

#### **CANINE RESCUE OF CENTRAL PA**

We're pleased to partner with Canine Rescue of Central PA, which is receiving a portion of the proceeds from purchases made at The Barking Lot pet market to help support their important work in helping dogs in helpless situations. Make sure to attend the Doggie Fashion Show on the Main Stage Saturday, March 4 at 12 pm to see some of their adorable, adoptable dogs strutting in style!







## DAUPHIN COUNTY TECHNICAL SCHOOL and CUMBERLAND-PERRY AREA CAREER & TECHNICAL CENTER

Trade students from Dauphin County Technical School and Cumberland-Perry Area Career & Technical Center constructed dog houses that are being auctioned to raise funds for Canine Rescue of Central PA in a partnership with PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW.

See these and other examples of student projects in their show booths, and learn more about the programs offered by these two career and technical high schools serving a total of 24 area school districts and offering programs



of study including construction, manufacturing, arts and technology, health and human services, hospitality, transportation and more. Students will attend the show for a Career Day on Friday, March 3 to enhance their training by exploring the show's exhibits and presentations, attending Main Stage presentations, and connecting with industry experts.







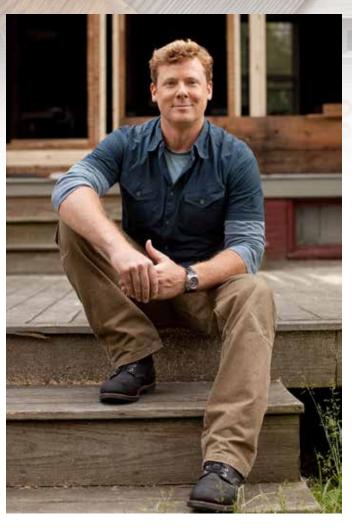




See the host of the PBS series This Old House and Ask This Old House on the Main Stage Friday, March 3 at 6 PM and Saturday, March 4 at 1 PM

As host of the popular, long-running PBS television series This Old House and Ask This Old House since 2003, Kevin O'Connor distills the details and intricacies of home improvement for millions of viewers, from thousands of project sites.

When he's not onsite and on-camera, the Massachusetts resident and father of three enjoys making improvements to his own home. Not surprising when you learn that he grew up, along with his siblings, on various job sites led by his father, a civil engineer. He and his wife, Kathleen, renovated their 1892 Queen Anne Victorian house, and as you'll see, he's a genuinely avid home enthusiast.



Kevin talked to us in advance of his March 3 & 4 talks at the PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW about some of his recent and in-progress home projects, and gave us some of his expert insights and tips.

#### Favorite room in his house:

My office. Hardest working room, for sure, but also very comfortable. We added some library lights, grass cloth wallpaper, a new leather chair and a few other things that kick up the form and function. Given the amount of time we spend in the room, it was worth it.



#### His tips for designing a home office:

These days it's often the most important room in the home, so treat it that way. Make it functional and comfortable. A few things we added to ours that really helped were tons of electrical outlets for all the charging that's needed. We even added an in-floor outlet under the big work table so computers can be plugged in while working without cords strung all over the place. A cabinet with glass doors for the printer helps with the noise - you can print a big document without disturbing an important phone call. High speed internet and repeaters are also critical, so think about where you'll hide all the wires.

#### His next home project:

Bistro lights for the patio. We have some up temporarily that we're testing out to see if we like them and where they should go, but now it's time to make them permanent. The patio is my ongoing project, with little improvements made every year because we spend so much time out there. Right now, I'm building a custom planter for the corner of the patio that will also hold the corner post for the light pole to dress it up and make it feel nice and permanent.

#### His tip for making a big impact in landscaping or curb appeal:

It's all about the edges. I don't care what you have in the beds as long as they are edged with crisp, clean lines. And keep the walkways and driveway edged, as well. A crisp edge line looks great and says that you're on top of your yard.

#### What tool every homeowner should own:

The Hori Hori, a multi-tool for gardening. Mine is a gift from This Old House landscape expert Jenn Nawada. It digs. cuts, measures and is an all-around essential tool that you can wear on your belt. When working in the yard, I reach for it all the time, now that I have my own. Thanks, Jenn!

#### Homeowners should also think about:

Installing a modern whole house generator, particularly in rural areas. There's going to be an increasing need for them, and you will want to be ready for power grid failures. The higher quality ones are more advanced and can be controlled remotely. They can also be a good investment there are several ways to do it affordably, and it's worth it.

#### The one project homeowners should not undertake:

Don't work in the electrical panel. This is for the pros. Feel free to turn breakers on and off, but pretty much avoid everything else. The downside is pretty bad!

#### **His PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW** appearances will feature:

A sneak peek into some of the new projects coming up on This Old House, along with some behind-the-scenes videos. If you're a fan of the show, you'll enjoy these. After that, I like to give the audience members a good 30 minutes for their questions and answers.

#### PA HOME +GARDEN SHOW

### SPRING HOME & GARDEN CHECKLIST

## Get a jump on spring home and garden chores with this handy checklist:

#### In the yard and garden:

- Clear flower beds of old mulch and leaves
- Divide perennials
- · Plant perennials, cold-hardy annuals and vegetables
- Edge garden beds, walkways and driveway
- Apply mulch, ground cover plants, or materials
- Clean patio / outdoor furniture, and check all surfaces
- Inspect garden hoses, sprinklers, fittings and attachments
- Tune up / charge up mower and other lawn equipment
- Clean and sharpen shovels, pruners, loppers and trowels
- Prune summer-blooming trees and shrubs; plant any new trees and shrubs when ground has thawed
- Lawn maintenance: Rake and remove dead grass, replace with topsoil and seed, fertilize
- Test irrigation systems. If using a timer, reset for Spring weather and sun exposure.

#### **Around the house:**

- Check exterior faucets
- Clean rain gutters and adjust downspouts
- Clean windows and screens; recaulk windows where needed
- Clean curtains and blinds
- Inspect air conditioning, replace filter, and schedule servicing, if needed
- Inspect, repair and reseal wooden decks, fences and railings
- Examine roof, shingles and exterior chimney for winter damage
- Clean out fireplace; have chimney inspected and cleaned
- Swap out heavy comforters and blankets with lighter ones



### **EXHIBITOR** SPOTLIGHT



#### **QnC Construction "exhibits" the** unique side of construction

It's hard to miss the 155-square foot tiny home on display at the PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW. It stands out - and that's exactly the intent of its builder, booth #105 exhibitor QnC Construction, LLC.

QnC Construction (QnC stands for Quality and Custom) is a fullservice residential construction company located in Liverpool, Pennsylvania that's been building affordable custom homes and remodeling existing homes for 13 years. Its tiny house display also serves as an example of the attention to detail and skilled craftsmanship that can be seen in all of the company's new home builds, additions, kitchen and bathroom remodels, and more.

"We like to do things differently," said QnC owner and president, Ben Wert. "The tiny house is something different than a typical show booth, and gets visitors to come talk to us." Previously, the company has also built and brought a smaller-scale dollhouse, barn, and mini-cornhole set to shows, which their booth visitors could enter a drawing to win.

The company's unconventional approach to trade show exhibits also applies to their client construction projects. For example, last year OnC undertook a really challenging project: successfully building an extensive second-floor home addition while the resident family remained living on the first floor.

"It took some creative planning and extra steps to ensure the family's comfort and safety, and to shorten the time frame as much as possible," said Wert. "We actually prefer, and specialize in, the more unusual and challenging projects."

Both Wert and QnC vice president Kalvin Riegel became interested in construction as teenagers, when Wert built new homes with his uncle, and Riegel was inspired by his father and grandfather, who were both contractors. Wert soon started his own construction business, while Riegel went to college, learned CAD (computer-aided design), and obtained a degree in Residential Architecture.



Today, QnC Construction employs 16 full-time staff. While its focus is residential homes, it has also taken on smaller commercial projects referred by satisfied residential clients, including renovations to a church, a restaurant kitchen, and professional offices. The company typically works on projects that are located within a 90-minute drive of its base.

"We've experienced our greatest growth within the last three years," said Wert. "Offering clients our creative ideas and options while working with them from start to finish is what we enjoy most, and is what they most respond to," said Riegel.

Learn more online at gncconstruction.com and at facebook.com/QNCConstruction

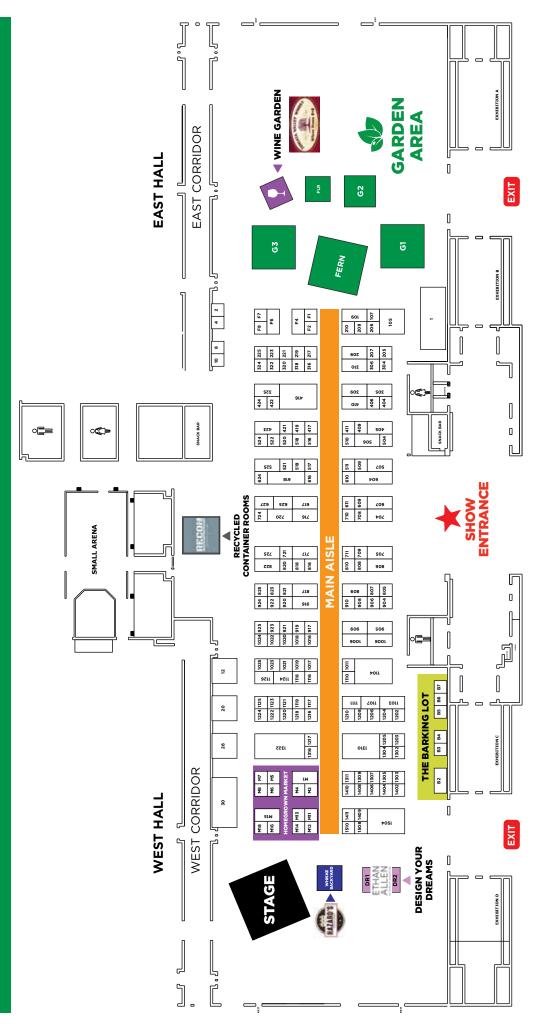
## PA HOME +GARDEN SHOW

# **MARCH 2-5, 2023**

PA FARM SHOW COMPLEX PAHomeShow.com

(©PAHomeAndGarden © @PAHomeAndGarden #PAHomeAndGarden #HarrisburgHomeGardenShow

## Welcome to the Show!



#### **2023 PA HOME + GARDEN SHOW | EXHIBITOR DIRECTORY**

AWNINGS	Profashion		Century Home Improvements	
Sun to Shade Awnings1		.624	Dayhoff Construction	
SASEMENT WATERPROOFING	GLASS - PLATE, BLOCK, SHOWER ENCLOSURES		Excel Remodeling	!
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Home Builders Association of Metro Harrisburg

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### SAVE THE DATE

MAY 11 - 14, 2023

### Perfect Destination for Mother's Day

More than a home tour; it is an experience celebrating not only the finest in new home construction, but also the local vendors and service providers who help make it happen.

There's something for everyone in this \$1,000,000+ home!

Open to the public and FREE to attend



**Autumn Oaks Estates** Harrisburg, PA for more information: www.harrisburgbuilders.com



espite the news headlines, individuals continue to buy and sell homes. According to a National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) analysis, in May 2022, 88% of homes sold were on the market for less than a month. For many Americans, owning their own home is worth the time and investment.

The benefits of buying a home are numerous. New homes available on the market today are designed to accommodate a variety of lifestyles, from busy on-the-go families to flexible spaces ideal for spending more time at home. In addition, many new homes feature a variety of floor plans and amenities to complement everyday family activities.

And today's homes are more energy efficient than ever. With innovative materials and construction techniques, new homes are built to be much more energy efficient than homes constructed a generation ago. As a result, not only can they be more affordable to operate, but new homes also are significantly more resource-efficient and environmentally friendly.

Building standards have changed a great deal over the decades, almost as fast as technology has evolved. Due to this evolution, new homes can accommodate today's advanced technology and be customized to meet the individual home owner's needs. And knowing that the house was built by a qualified professional to adhere to the latest safety codes gives the owner added assurance.

Many benefits are not tangible but similarly valuable. For example, one of the built-in benefits of many new homes is the forming of a new neighborhood. When families move into a new community at the same time, lasting bonds of friendship and neighborliness often form right away. Many home builders will host community block parties in these developments to help neighbors of all ages meet and connect.

For many people, a home is the single best long-term investment and a primary source of wealth and financial security. The contrast of wealth-building opportunities between homeowners and renters is striking. On average, someone who owns their home has a household wealth of \$255,000 compared to a renter with an average household wealth of \$6,300. Americans count on their homes for their children's education, retirement, and overall personal sense of well-being.





#### A RAINBOW **OF REDS**

It will be all about drama as reds hit the



home front in 2023. The bold tones of oranges and reds will attract attention and bring energy to any space.

Benjamin Moore's Color of the Year, Raspberry Blush, is a funky coral that makes a statement in a dining room mixed with black furnishings, a living room along with warm neutrals, or a dramatic powder room to delight your guests.

#### **KEEPING IT GREEN**

There are lots of choices for the lovers of everything green in 2023, as the trends show tones from



chartreuse to emerald, and all the way to the darkest green that could almost be mistaken for black.

Cutting out of your comfort zone can lead you to bright green pops of color or a moody deep green for a touch of drama, but overall, green is still considered a neutral that can blend with any style.

Think Glidden's Color of the Year, Vining Ivy, when you look for a green that has just enough blue to make it the perfect shade to create a sophisticated look with dark wood, or a bright space along with warm neutrals.

#### **COZY BROWNS**

Continuing the natural color stories from the last few years, the warmth of woodlands



is a highlight this year as both a relaxing way to get in touch with the great outdoors and to use as a setting for some dramatic, intense tones.

Try rich browns accented by rosy hues for the mood of a sunset in the forest or mix them with bright green for a touch of spring.

#### **MAGNIFICENT MAGENTA**

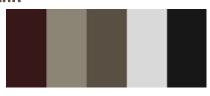
Are you ready for something completely different? Then magenta may be your answer in 2023. A beautiful blend of red



and purple, magenta will make any space a jewel, whether it leans to sophistication, shines with metal, or brings the beauty of flowers to mingle with tones of nature.

#### DRAMATIC AND DARK

There is no arguing that black is an amazing accent and has its place in any space, pairing easily



with all the other trendy colors this year.

2023 is also welcoming the other darks, whether they're moody browns, the most intense eggplant, or a fabulous navy that verges on black.

#### **COMING UP ROSY**

The new rosy blushes bring the convenience of neutrals but are warm tones that combine beautifully as a contrast with dark,



earthy shades or blend with light colors for a spring-like look all year long.

Sherwin Williams' Color of the Year, Redend Point, is just the right warm neutral to cast a rosy glow and a cozy look to every space.

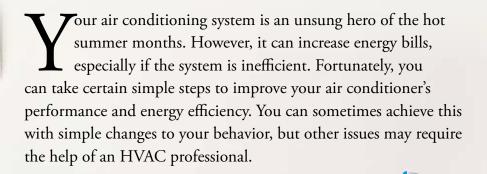
## Color Your Home 2023

No matter whether you head toward this year's warm neutrals or think out of the box with some intense reds, 2023 will color your world in a whole new way.

Get ready for the warmup as you choose your colors this year and create a happy, cozy space that makes you feel right at home.

## Simple Ways to Maximize Your AC Efficiency

by Daflure, Heating, Cooling and Solar







#### INSULATE EXPOSED DUCTWORK

Seal your ductwork to ensure that it doesn't leak your conditioned air to the outside. You need to hire an expert to inspect your ductwork and recommend the necessary insulation steps. It's advisable to insulate the ductwork with duct insulation material of the correct thickness to improve the AC efficiency.

#### SERVICE YOUR UNIT BEFORE SUMMER

One of the most effective ways of improving AC energy efficiency is maintaining it before the heat of the summer months hits. A certified professional checkup helps uncover underlying AC issues that could affect the system's efficiency and address them early enough. Moreover, routine AC maintenance can extend the lifespan of your system, saving you unnecessary replacement costs. Schedule a tune-up appointment with your HVAC expert if you are looking into making your AC more efficient.

#### CHANGE THE AIR FILTERS

Changing air filters is a good way of operating your AC efficiently. Air filters collect dust and other contaminants that can easily clog if you don't clean or change them often.

Blocked air filters strain the air conditioner, forcing it to use more energy to maintain desired home temperatures. Ensure that you change air filters every three months or more often, depending on the number of occupants in your home or the surroundings.

Following these tips can maximize AC performance and increase its energy-efficiency levels. Our experienced and friendly HVAC professionals provide AC repair and installation services, but we also offer heating installation, repair, and maintenance options.

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To add extra living space to your home, consider a wraparound deck or a multi-level deck to increase the square footage and accommodate a big group with ease.

#### About the Architecture

The best deck for your home is one which complements your home's architecture. Many deck designs are versatile, but some are more likely to blend with specific architectural styles.

Traditional home designs are well-suited for classic rectangular decks, but taking it up a notch with a circular section filled with comfortable furniture offers an intimate gathering place only a short distance from your main entertainment area.

A timeless mid-century modern home pairs best with deck designs that have clean lines and a modern flair. Squares and rectangles blend with the home and choosing building products in warm colors of nature truly bring in a midcentury feel.

Craftsman homes are famous for their artisan designs and custom look. A square or rectangular deck with some interesting angles and hand-crafted railing designs will allow your deck to show off the same hand-selected elements as your house.

#### Talk about Texture

Decking is available in a variety of materials to suit every property and every taste.

Composite decking is known for its long-lasting durability and offers you a beautiful deck without the maintenance of wood. Some composite materials are even made from recycled materials, and your HBA professional can help

you determine which manufacturers offer those products. Pressure-treated wood is treated with chemicals to deter insects and mold from damaging your deck, and is less expensive, but requires regular power washing, sanding, and re-staining to keep it looking its best.

Cedar decking is a higher quality wood at a higher price than pressure-treated, and requires somewhat less maintenance than the less expensive option.

PVC Vinyl decking materials offer a variety of colors and are pretty much maintenance free. The cost is higher than many other decking options, but the reduction in maintenance costs creates an appeal for homeowners. Another low maintenance decking choice is aluminum, which has become a popular alternative for wood decks. Aluminum comes in a variety of colors and is a great choice for areas prone to high winds or fire risks but costs many times the price of pressure-treated wood decking.

#### Remember the Railings

Railings have come into their own as design elements, with low-maintenance vinyl or metal vertical and horizontal balusters becoming more popular every day. A deck with a view would even benefit from losing the balusters in favor of glass panels to enhance the outdoor experience. And anyone who entertains may want to consider a cocktail railing with a wide cap for guests to place drinks and hors d'oeuvres.

No matter your choice, dream of a deck and it can be yours with the help of a professional contractor from the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Harrisburg.





by GoldGlo Landscapes

ou can extend the amount of time you can spend outside when you have landscape lighting installed at your home. Whether you need bright light to illuminate an entire outdoor area or ambient outdoor lighting to provide just enough light for visibility, a professional landscape contractor can help with a strategic outdoor lighting plan and installation. Here are some of the areas where you may want to consider having outdoor lighting installed throughout your landscape.

#### Front Entrance

Set the mood upon arrival with outdoor lighting throughout your front entrance area. You could have lampposts installed near the entrance of your paver driveway, providing a warm welcome to everyone who visits. Make sure to have ample lighting around your house numbers so guests and emergency personnel can quickly locate your home in the evenings.

Consider having outdoor lighting fixtures installed along your paver walkways to help guide visitors to your front door. These fixtures are often decorative features with various styles, shapes, and designs to choose from. You can also choose the finish of the outdoor lighting fixtures, with options such as black, bronze, copper, nickel, and more.

#### Outdoor Dining Room

You can set the mood in your outdoor dining room area with ambient outdoor lighting. Imagine hosting a dinner party on your paver patio, with a soft glow of light to provide visibility. If you have surrounding trees, you could have the moonlighting technique employed. This involves having a light installed at the top of the tree shining downwards. This creates shadows of the branches on the ground, causing the shadows to sway when the wind blows. It can have a magical effect and provide ambiance to your outdoor dining room area.

Another outdoor lighting idea is to have strings of outdoor twinkle lights installed along the beams of your pergola. This adds character to your outdoor space and enhances the overall aesthetic.

#### Planting Beds

Whether in your front yard, back yard, or along the sides of your home, outdoor lighting in the planting beds can transform your landscape. There are numerous outdoor lighting strategies that can be used to add drama to the landscape and help highlight special features. Outdoor lighting in planting beds allows everyone to see the beauty of these features at all hours of the day and night, enhancing the appearance of your home and landscape.

You could have outdoor LED lantern lighting fixtures installed along the edges of your planting beds to provide subtle lighting. Uplighting can be used on trees, which involves a bright light being installed at the base of the tree and shining upwards. This is an effective method to brighten the area but also highlight the shape of the trees.

#### **Water Features**

If you have water fountains or waterfalls located throughout your landscape, consider having outdoor lighting installed around these areas. Water naturally reflects light, so this creates a stunning effect.

Outdoor light fixtures can be installed behind waterfalls, which helps bring attention to the movement of the water as it cascades over the natural stone or other material that the waterfall is built of. Water fountains are often beautifully crafted, which makes highlighting these features even more effective in showing off their impressive appearance.

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## Xeriscaping!

By Karen L. Chandler

That on earth is Xeriscaping? It's a long word for a simple idea. Xeriscaping is a way of gardening to reduce the amount of water you use to keep your plantings looking great.

Think about xeriscaping your yard this year to reduce your water use and cut back on weeding, mowing, and pruning so you can sit back and enjoy your outdoor living space.

Rock Gardens are a perfect spot for drought-resistant plants like Autumn Joy Stonecrop, and an attractive rock garden can be just the low-maintenance touch your yard needs. Pick plants with the all the same love of sun or shade for a relaxing addition to your property.



Ground cover is a great way to cut back on both mowing and watering your yard when summer fun calls. Use ground cover like Sweet Woodruff or Lamb's Ear to replace grass in hard-to-mow or water areas, and for deer-resistant choices that both look great and save you time and money.





Mulch may not seem exciting, but it's a great weapon against the worry of drought in your garden. A thick layer of mulch reduces the need to water by keeping your plants' roots both cool and moist. An extra bonus of mulch is its ability to cut back on weeds and give your more time to love your yard.



An irrigation system is an easy way to reduce water use in your gardens because these systems allow you to focus the watering only in places that need the extra moisture. And it's a great bonus to know that your plants are watered even if you head out on vacation during the summer months. Annuals will no doubt be the neediest plants in your flower beds but are well-worth some watering for the beautiful colors and scents they bring to your gardens. Use the annuals you love as accents but focus on native perennials and drought-tolerant shrubbery in sunny areas to truly reduce your water usage.

Container gardens add multiple benefits to your gardens. Not only can you control the soil, light, and water for each container according to the plants' needs, but garden pests are less likely to attack plants in containers. Another fun benefit is choosing beautiful pots and other interesting containers that create a decorative addition to your gardens without any need for maintenance.



Ornamental grasses and trees can not only offer lowmaintenance options for your yard, but once established will rarely ever need to be watered. Both grasses and trees come in enough sizes, shapes, and colors to bring texture to any landscape.

Hardscapes are the patios, walkways, walls, and fountains that make up the non-loving parts of your landscape.



Hardscape options help to create a beautiful outdoor living space that require much less maintenance than the living pieces and are best installed with the help of a professional landscaper.

Learn more about how xeriscaping can become a part of your outdoor living space by contacting a trusted member of the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Harrisburg.

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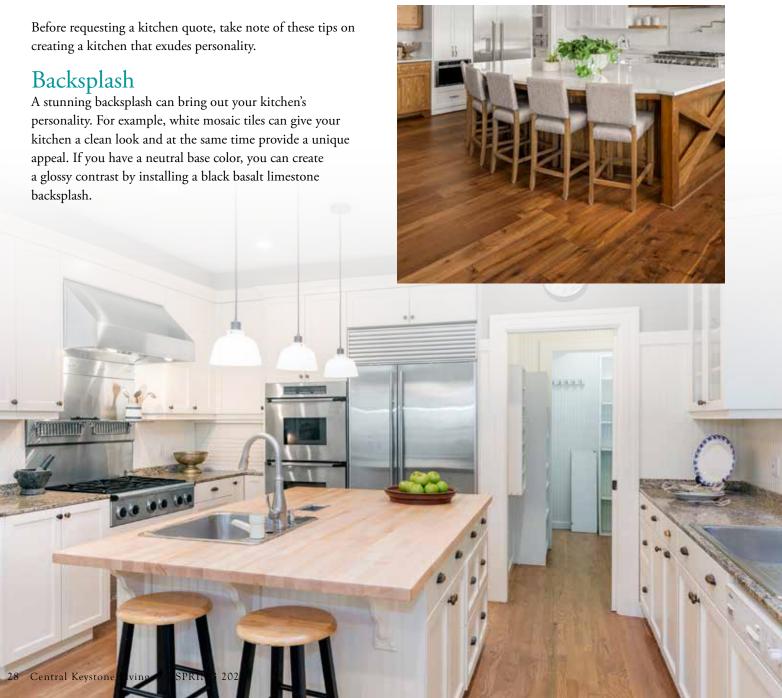
## Designing a Kitchen Full of Character

by DreamMaker Bath & Kitchen Remodeling

o make your kitchen truly your own, you should think of specific design elements that will add character to the space. Generally, you have to use a combination of colors, textures, and patterns to create a striking and memorable design.

#### **Artworks**

A painting or framed photograph can help set the mood in your kitchen. Depending on the artwork, it can give your kitchen a cozy atmosphere or a stimulating environment.





When hanging artwork, make sure to use a moistureresistant frame to protect it from damage. You also have to position it properly — a job best left to professionals.

#### Kitchen Floor

You can choose a striking pattern for your kitchen floor. Wood is also a good material to consider as it has different kinds of textures, grains, and variety. If you want durable and stylish kitchen floors, tiles are a good option because they are stain- and scratch-resistant.

#### Kitchen Cabinets

Kitchen cabinet pulls and knobs can serve as accents in your kitchen. Replace the standard ones with leather straps or jet-black T-bars to add visual interest to your cabinetry. For a chic look, use turquoise knobs or handles with a bold color. Don't forget to mention this to your contractor so they can provide you with an accurate kitchen estimate.

Apart from hardware, you can also play with the colors of your cabinetry. For instance, choose different colors for your upper and lower cabinets — perhaps a darker shade for your base cabinets and lighter hues for the upper cabinets.

#### Kitchen Island

You can add character to your kitchen island by painting it with a bold shade. Opt for a color that contrasts with your cabinets. For example, a kitchen island in vivid red will look stunning against white cabinets.



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by Home Remodeling Pros of Central PA

🕽 o the decision has been made. It's finally time to remodel your master bathroom, which still has the original tile from when the house was built in 1982, a leaky shower/tub combo, a double sink that takes up way too much room, and a toilet that has seen better days. You've called Home Pros of Central PA, and we're going to be coming over to do your free consultation, going over your design options and working with you to make this bathroom one that you don't have to be ashamed to let the in-laws use. But then the question comes - what do you want out of your new bathroom renovation? If you're going to do it, you want to do it right, so what should you make sure to include? We'll tell you! Here are five great features that you'll love to have in a new bathroom when you do a remodel:

#### **Heated floors**

Anyone who's had to pee in the middle of the night in December knows how miserable that walk into the bathroom can be. A heated floor turns a torturous tinkle into a soothing stream, and once you've had it, you'll never go back.

#### A perfect shower

An open shower with a rainfall or 100-point shower head and colored lighting that makes every shower feel like a magical experience won't only be amazing, but it will be more efficient for your water bill too!





#### A heated towel bar

If you love heated floors, just imagine how incredible it will be to dry off with a toasty warm towel! You may never leave your bathroom again.





#### **Bidet**

A bidet is just French for "special hose for that special area" and it keeps everything cleaner! While it might take a little getting used to, it will cut down on the waste of toilet paper, you'll have fewer clogged toilets, and you'll feel European after, well, 'Europoopin'.



#### **Touchless faucet** and built-in soap dispenser

Say goodbye to smudged faucets with a touchless faucet! This technology is now available from major consumer faucet manufacturers, and will save you collective hours of cleaning.





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## Pick Poly-lumber for Your **Outdoor Living Spaces**

By Karen L. Chandler

f you're looking for the perfect addition to your outdoor living space this year, think poly-lumber furniture! Not only is poly-lumber beautiful, but it will be one element in your yard that isn't taking up the time you would rather use for fun.

Poly-lumber is an amazing combination of a wide range of perks that may lead you to replace all of your seating and then come up with even more ways to include poly-lumber in your outdoor spaces. Unlike wood, poly-lumber is moisture resistant and UV-treated so it can stand up to drastic weather changes without any effect on its color, quality, or overall charm. Keeping your poly-

lumber outside all year long creates opportunities for a quick bonfire on a mild winter day knowing your fire pit furniture is still in place and ready to go. And no longer will you be dragging out all of your outdoor furniture right before your first cookout in May. It is ready for a quick wipe down with mild soap and water and your guests will be seated before you know it!

Purchasing poly-lumber is a vote for the environment. Polylumber furniture is made from recycled plastic, meaning amazing quantities of plastic milk jugs and detergent bottles will have a new life as beautiful outdoor furniture. The trees you save will thank you too!

Although many people think of the classic Adirondack chair as the ultimate piece of poly-lumber furniture, keep in mind that the broad selection ranges from chairs to rockers and accent tables to full dining sets.



Both wood and metal outdoor furniture are high in maintenance needs and low in color options. Poly-lumber is not only the easiest and longest-lasting option for your outdoor living spaces, but it comes in a rainbow of colors from the most traditional browns, grays, and whites, to the beachiest of blues, the brightest citrus tones, and the prettiest pastels. And don't forget, poly-lumber can be customized with an array of designs to make your furniture truly personalized.

If you're looking to set up the perfect patio, the most fantastic firepit, and the most luxurious outdoor lounge, reach out to the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Harrisburg for guidance in your furniture choices and every other aspect of your dream outdoor spaces.



If you're planning a home project or remodel, hire a professional with excellent credentials. Doing your research upfront is the single biggest step to making sure that the job gets done right. Use this checklist to help you select the right contractor for the job.

- ✓ Do they belong to a builders association? Association members are respected professionals in their communities and have access to the latest industry information and training. They are invested in their profession and are committed to service, integrity and stability. Your local builders association is the best place to start your search.
- ✓ How long have they been in business? It typically takes 3-5 years to establish a financially sound business.

  Will they be around after the construction is complete to service any warranties?
- ✓ Do they have a permanent address?
- ✓ Will they provide you with references? Great references should not be hard to find for a reputable remodeler who is established. Ask those references if they would hire the contractor again.
- ✓ Have you seen their work? Both completed and in progress?
- ✓ Are they accessible? How promptly do they return your calls? Remember, you will need to be in contact with them throughout your project and possibly afterward.
- ✓ Will they provide a clearly written contract?
- ✓ Be cautious of unusually low priced bids and always get more than one bid.
- ✓ Ask if your contractor builds to Pennsylvania's statewide building code. If they use subcontractors, do they also build to code?
- ✓ Home improvement contractors in Pennsylvania MUST be registered with the Attorney General's office. Although this registration is not an endorsement of the quality of their work, it is the law. Visit the AG's website at attorney general.gov to verify the registration of a contractor.
- ✓ Ask for an insurance certificate to verify current workers' compensation and general liability insurance.

## Real Housepets

by Touch of Color Flooring

They may be rich. They may be famous. They may be reality TV stars, but these adorable ladies don't let it go to their heads. . . . much.

They live lives of extravagance that any pet wishes they could live. What's the secret to their success? They'll never tell. But what they don't mind telling you about are the pet-friendly floors they have installed in their homes.









#### Let No Room Be "Off-Limits"

Not every pet is a diva like the Real Housepets, but we love them just the same. They are a central part of our daily lives. So why do some households settle for rooms that are "off-limits" to our four-legged companions?

With many options available on the market these days for pet-friendly flooring, there's no reason our fluffy friends shouldn't be able to enjoy the whole house like the rest of us.

Whether the concern is scratching, paw prints, stains, or accidents, there's a flooring option for everyone in your house - both the human and animal members of your family!

#### **Luxury Vinyl/Rigid Core**

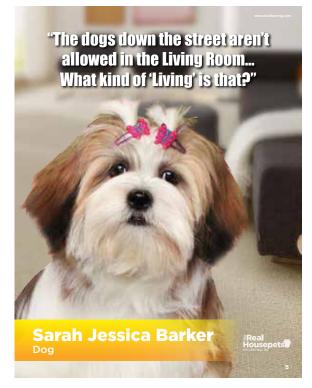
Luxury Vinyl flooring is completely waterproof, making it safe from moisture and resistant to stains.

#### **Cupcake's Bottom Line:**

You definitely won't regret a Luxury Vinyl Floor purchase.

#### **Paw-sitively Scratch Resistant**

Nails and claws can do damage if you don't have the right flooring, which means durability is an important thing to keep in mind.





#### **Luxury Vinyl/Rigid Core**

Durable and resistant to scratches and tears, making a great choice.

#### Miss Whiskers' Bottom Line:

Luxury Vinyl is purr-fect if you're concerned about damage.

#### **Styles Everyone Will Love**

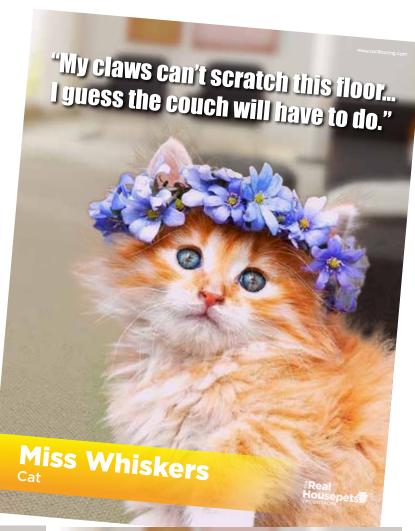
Sure, performance is important, bet let's be honest it's got to look good as well!

#### **Luxury Vinyl/Rigid Core**

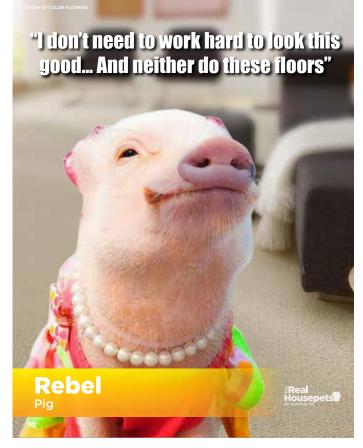
Like hardwood, luxury vinyl comes in enough styles to please anyone, but with benefits that other floors can't match!

#### **Rebel's Bottom Line:**

You won't get tired of looking at Luxury Vinyl.







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