

- Start your garden now. Get some flower or vegetable seeds and planting pots. Have the kids help plant them and set them in a south-facing window in late March. Next, set up a watering schedule. You'll save money not having to buy plants in the spring, and it's a great learning experience for the kids.
- Furnace filters need to be cleaned or replaced every 6 months—minimum—so make this upkeep part of your spring cleaning.
- Wash the salt and grit from the concrete surfaces as soon as possible in the spring.
- Get the bikes and lawn mower out early. Inspect and service them early to beat the rush in the spring.
- Since we've had very little moisture this winter, trees and shrubs may need help getting enough to drink. Early- to mid-April is a good time to give them a good soaking.
- Trimming trees in March (not maples) is still a good idea. Properly pruned trees are healthier, grow faster, and are ultimately better looking down the road.
- Birds need help finding food this time of year, so make sure your bird feeders are full.
- Building birdhouses can be a great Saturday project for kids and parents, and plans are available on the Internet. Once the birdhouses are ready, place them in a location that is somewhat remote, but easy to observe from inside the house. Be sure to get them out by April 1st.

Referrals are one of the greatest compliments a company can receive, so we want to thank all of you who have recommended Boyer Building Corporation to a friend, family member or associate. Our continued success is largely due to your kind words.

Thank you for your support.

Have a great summer!!





spring 2012

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Greetings from Boyer Building!

Things seem to really be heating up! And I am not just talking about the weather. The economy seems to be improving, the stock market is going up, building permits are taking off, and people seem to

be smiling again. But wait—I don't see us going back to the heyday of "Spend now, ask questions later."

The new reality in home building and improvements is building for relevance. The market forces of affordability, energy conservation, new technologies, and sustainability are aligning, so today's ideal homes are not too large or filled with redundant spaces. Instead, they are energy-efficient, low maintenance and easier on the environment.

To meet those expectations, successful builders establish a project profile after listening to customers, understanding what features and technologies are relevant to them, and fitting those criteria into the offering package for each project. Builders need to be sincere, deliver quality work and service, and monitor budgets and schedules.

At Boyer, we always build our project profile from the customer's wishes and consider that a cornerstone of decision-making throughout the design, specification, and building processes. We are happy to provide initial guidance to help you determine the right project for your home, so please give us a call to start the process.

Wishing you well,

John Boyer

on the cover



We've broadened our cabinet selection

Boyer Building is now a distributor for Dura Supreme Cabinetry out of Howard Lake, MN.

Storage solutions are a huge need for most active families. We now have great ideas and products for your family.



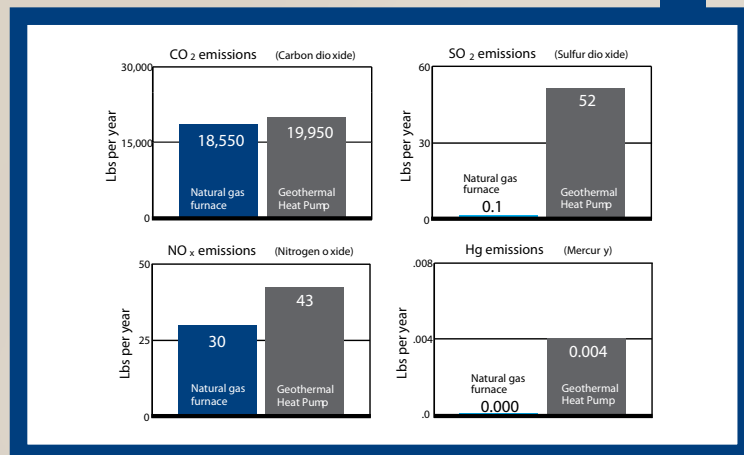
DURASUPREME
CABINETRY

According to information provided by Center Point Energy (<http://info.centerpointenergy.com>), installing a geothermal system for the typical Minnesota home would cost about \$18,000—far more than installing a high-efficiency, natural gas-fired, forced air furnace. The energy cost savings per year will be about \$300 to \$400. Although rebates and tax credits are available to offset the cost of geothermal installations, it would take a very long time to break even with a geothermal system.

Another point people sometimes miss is that it takes electricity to run the geothermal heat pump system, and in Minnesota, more than half of our electricity is produced by burning coal. Generating electricity with coal is much more damaging to the environment than consuming natural gas.

However, every situation is different. If a homeowner can be assured his share of electricity is generated using wind or solar energy, then from an environmental standpoint, geothermal systems could be the way to go. (Once again, refer to the Center Point website listed above).

As a builder, I generally see that spending more on better insulation, windows, and airtight construction delivers the most bang for the buck.



Geothermal heat pumps are less environmentally friendly than natural gas furnaces because they require electricity to operate.

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Let's SPIFF It Up A Bit!

It appears the housing market will continue to slowly climb upwards. Many homeowners have accepted that moving may not be a viable option just yet. But often, the spaces in our homes really don't suit the family's needs. Spending a fortune may be out of the question right now, but why not spiff up the place a bit?

Popular Projects

Now is a good time to add new fireplace facing (see photo below) or an AV cabinet in the family room. Maybe you'd rather modify the kitchen so it functions better for entertaining. Some people opt to give their home a fresh, updated look by replacing old tired trim and repainting the walls.

Projects like these don't have to be expensive, but they can make a huge improvement in the livability of a home, and you can still easily recover your investment in the near future. These are just a few of the projects we've been doing lately to make living spaces more functional and appealing.

How can we help you with your "Spiff It Up" project?



The new shelving, deep mantle, and storage space surrounding the fireplace give the room a more polished look.



We added a "Mom's office" to this kitchen. The convenient computer desk, drawers, and shelf space make organizing paperwork—the details that all busy Moms face constantly—a breeze.



For many families, rear halls continue to attract clutter. This family solved the problem with a roomy boot bench. Now each family member has a storage space, which reduces clutter in other rooms of the house.

GEOHERMAL *Maybe not?*

Energy prices and concerns about the environment are both on the rise. When homeowners look for ways to address those issues, the subject of geothermal heating and cooling systems often comes up.

A residential geothermal heat pump uses refrigeration technology to move heat energy from the earth and back to it.

In the winter, the system consolidates the stored heat from deep in the ground and uses it to heat the home. In the summer, the system reverses and moves the heat from the home back into the ground.

There are two common types of systems. "Pump and dump" systems pump water from the ground or a lake through the system where some of the heat is extracted and then the water is dumped back into a lake or wetland.

The second geothermal system uses a closed loop. Fluid is pumped within a closed loop that runs through ground and conducts the heat energy. The loops are installed either into vertically drilled holes 100 to 250 feet deep or 8 feet deep trenches that run horizontally across the property.



Example of vertical loop and horizontal loop installation

The efficiencies of these systems are advertised to be 350%. However, actual efficiencies can vary, depending on the quality of the installation, the size of the system and the efficiency of the equipment.



March 3 - April 1
Parade of Homes # 112
17412 Sanctuary Dr.
Minnetonka, MN 55345

March 17
Mill City Farmers Market
MN Landscape Arboretum
Chanhassen
www.arboretum.umn.edu

March 25
Sugarbush Pancake Breakfast and Maple Syrup Tours
MN Landscape Arboretum
Chanhassen



March 30 - April 1
Remodelers Showcase # R28
4709 Eastwood Circle
Minnetonka, MN 55345

April 7
Easter Egg Candy Hunt
Chanhassen City Center Park

April 9
Twins vs. Angels
Minnesota Twins Opening Day
Target Field

April 20 - May 12
Minnetonka High School Spring Musical
Legally Blonde
www.minnetonkatheatre.com

June 9 - 10
Art on the Lake
The Excelsior Commons
www.excelsiorartonthelake.com

June 23 - 24
Wayzata Art Experience
Downtown Wayzata
www.wayzatachamber.com

July 4
Fireworks

Boyer Building Corporation is in a unique position to provide great new construction opportunities. We have a large selection of Boyer-owned exclusive lots throughout Chanhassen, Shorewood, Minnetonka and Deephaven. Prices can be negotiated, along with a housing package, when you buy direct.



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