Exterior Home Improvements for Fall







EXTERIOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS FOR FALL

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If You Have an Older Home, It Might Be Time for Exterior Improvements

ADVICE FROM THE PROFESSIONALS







A majority of homes on Long Island are over 60 years old. Most were built with wooden siding, which over time allowed rodents and squirrels to gain access, and/or water damage and rot. Many older roofs sag under the weight of plywood sheathing and multiple layers of asphalt shingles. And for older windows, made simply of wood, glass, putty and paint, leakage and water damage became factors over time.

According to Tri-State Window Factory President, John Kypreos, there are several important home improvement projects that may be better left until the cooler, fall months.

WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

ROOF REPLACEMENT

NEW VINYL SIDING

WAITING UNTIL FALL CAN HELP GET THE JOB DONE FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY.

FALL EXTERIOR HOME PROJECT WINDOWS & DOORS

Replacing My Windows. Where Do I Start?

Tri-State recommends that you check your windows for drafts, rot or other damage. In addition, if your windows are single pane or have condensation or fog, are hard to operate or clean, it's probably time for a window replacement.

Vinyl is by far the most popular choice for window replacement because it is cost-effective, maintenance-free and long lasting. But not all vinyl windows are created equally. Be sure that the vinyl material being used in your window frame is less conductive to better insulate and prevent warping. Tri-State uses its own less conductive modified PVC thermoplastic that is reinforced with rust-proof aluminum for a more solid frame. The combination allows for a window that is super strong and maximizes viewable area.

What to Look for to Get Maximum Efficiency from Window Replacements

To maximize your investment and save on energy costs, you'll want a window that is well manufactured and customized to your specs. Look for one that offers thicker glass and low U-factors, the gauge of the window's insulation and resistance heat gain or loss. Most companies use 1/16" glass versus Tri-State's 1/8" thick glass. Also Tri-State's total glass thickness is 1 inch versus the competition's 3/8" to 7/8" thickness.

Plus, the window you choose should have an Energy Star® label and certification from the National Fenestration Rating Council (NFRC) which gives it a U-factor. Typical window companies offer U-factors of 24, while Tri-State's U-factor is a more efficient 16.

Getting your windows and doors sized correctly is essential to proper installation and use. Tri-State uses highly experienced, factory trained measurers to guarantee exact sizing so that windows fit right the first time. Installation managers oversee every job and ensure the least amount of disruption of your home.

What's My Guarantee that I'm Getting A Good Window?

It's all about who you choose to work with. Tri-State has its own factory right here on Long Island, so you deal with a local family-owned business whose reputation matters in the community. At Tri-State, fabrication is done on-site combining old world craftsmanship with high-tech precision technology. Manufacturing is also done with an attention to detail often lost in robotic assembly plants.

Tri-State boasts a wide variety of window frames and glass for replacement windows and doors. Because all Tri-State products are custom-made, it means customers have unique choices — whether in construction, grids, colors or finishes — many not found anywhere else. Adding practicality to performance, Tri-State exclusively offers built-in mini-blinds in all their windows and glass doors, so homeowners can control light levels and privacy.

How Do I Update the Look of My Patio Doors?

More homeowners are opting to extend their homes into the outdoors with new patio doors, sliders and French-style doors. Tri-State sliders and patio doors are a combination of elegance and efficiency. They also boast several features not readily found such as wood jambs, a master frame covered in vinyl, pulled key locks and extra security foot locks. Their patio doors are manufactured with high-performance, argon gas filled, and tempered low-E glass. Low-E means that these doors are energy efficient and better at insulating. Another feature that Tri-State offers are invisible screens and built-in mini-blinds.



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How Do I Know If I Need A New Roof?

Today, a new roof is as much protection from wind, rain and snow as it is decoration. Any time you find yourself with a roof that sags, sports unwanted plant growth (like moss), leaky flashing or missing or curling shingles, it's time for a new roof.



What Should I Look for When Considering a New Roof?

Like window replacement and siding, the most important factor in putting on a new roof (after your roofing material) is the company you choose. Protect your investment and lessen your liability with a reputable company that operates from a physical address, has workman's compensation and liability insurance, can produce a license from the city or state, and guarantees its work. At Tri-State, roofers are highly trained professionals with a keen eye for detail who are fully insured. Tri-State also offers guarantees from the manufacturer, as well as the company, and stand by their work with some of the longest labor guarantees in the industry.



FALL EXTERIOR HOME PROJECT SIDING

How Do I Know It's Time to Either Replace or Install Vinyl Siding?

Since siding is one of the first things you see when you approach your home, it will be pretty clear when you need to think "new." If you have wood shingles that have rot, are discolored,

high maintenance and in general disrepair, it's time to consider high performance, low-maintenance vinyl siding. If your current vinyl siding has gaps or is blistered, chipped, cracked or dented, it is not only unsightly but probably increasing utility bills. New siding can save you considerably on your energy bill and delivers an average return on investment of 76%.

Just as in roofing and windows, who you choose is just as important as the materials you choose. Kypreos reports, "At Tri-State, all our siding is guaranteed for durability, performance, insulation, breathability and insect and wind resistance. We use a patented triple locking system to provide greater rigidity and flatter seams, along with foam board insulation for maximum insulation and energy savings."



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