

HOUSE & HOME

Delaware

Your #1 Resource and Design Magazine

Volume 23, Issue 11



Architectural Concrete Design

Bringing experience and dedication
to each and every project *page 23*

FALL CHECKLIST
*Get your home primed and
ready for the season*

LANDSCAPING LOVE
*Autumn is the perfect time to show your
outdoor space a little TLC*

Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view our Online Design Center



IMPERIAL

MARBLE & GRANITE

*Specialists in the Fabrication
& Installation of Natural
Stone & Quartz*

Kitchen Countertops | Vanity Tops
Fireplace Surrounds | Bar Tops | Slab Walls

Family Owned and Operated
since 2004

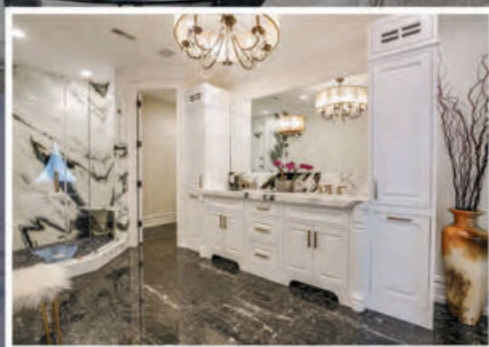
Cambria & Silestone Promotion

Select colors
up to 20% off!
Must mention *House & Home*
for special pricing.

Visit our new
showroom
located in West
Chester, PA!

QUARTZ
COUNTERTOPS
STARTING FROM
\$1,899

Up to 40 sq. ft. installed with 8 free edges to choose from. Exp 11/15/23



*Buy from the
Manufacturer
DIRECT and
SAVE BIG!*

*Will beat Big Box
Store Estimates*



Imperial Marble and Granite, Inc.

200 Old Tinicum Island Rd.,
Essington, PA 19029
610-521-0130

1311 West Chester Pike,
West Chester, PA 19382
610-738-5277

Visit our 4,500 sq. ft. showroom and 25,000 indoor warehouse.
Choose from over 500 slabs of Granite, Marble & Cambria
Call for Your Free Estimate & Design Consultation

www.imgstone.net



Build the outdoor space
of your dreams



Proud to build with products by
 **TimberTech**

DECKS • PATIOS & HARDSCAPES • SCREENED PORCHES • SUNROOMS
OUTDOOR KITCHENS • FIRE FEATURES • SHADE STRUCTURES

Check out our
SHOWROOM

Please call ahead

archadeck[®]
outdoor living

Better Building *by* Design

Now is the best time to build

Archadeck Outdoor Living has been designing and building custom outdoor spaces since 1980. In addition to flawless design and expert construction, we pride ourselves on transforming your backyard into the perfect outdoor escape.

Contact us today for your
FREE DESIGN CONSULTATION

 **302-455-2426**

 **Archadeck.com**

Is Moisture Behind your Stucco Ruining your Home's Structure?

Call the Stucco Remediation Experts at E & E Contracting!



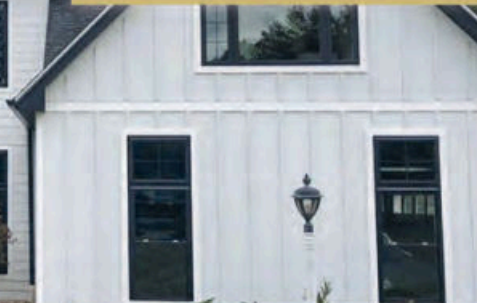
E & E

GENERAL CONTRACTING

YOU DREAM IT, WE BUILD IT

SPECIALIZING IN FULL EXTERIOR REMODELING PROJECTS

Siding - Roofing - Windows - Doors -
Decks - Additions & More!



Call For A Free Consultation

717-442-4814

EEcontractingLLC.com

DIAMOND KOTE
Building Products

Haunted deck?

6

MONTHS SAME AS CASH

BEFORE



Call today for your DECK SORCISM!

If Contracted by Halloween Choice of:
Using our AMAZING 6 Months Same As Cash
OR
20% OFF Internet Pricing! (If Paying By Check)

This special is only for our New Low Maint decks.
Screen Porches, Trellis & Gazebo's don't apply. Not
valid with any other offers, or estimates out.



FREE LED LIGHTING PACKAGE to keep those Ghosts
at bay **AND** **FREE TEARDOWN/REMOVAL** of that creepy,
haunted old deck. Included if contracted by 10/31/23
or when remaining install spots are filled.

- New Low Maint. Decks only!*
- Fully Licensed, Bonded and Insured
- Delaware Choice Best Deck Builder last 8 yrs!
- Best Deck Builder Chester County last 12 yrs!
- Family owned and operated for over 38 yrs.
- New Castle County DE and Chester County PA



302-897-0302
www.getdeckedincl.com

LIMITED TIME OFFER EXPIRES 10/31/23 *ONLY FEW INSTALL DATES LEFT...ACT NOW!

Offer not valid with any other offers or estimates out!

Disclosure: 6-Month Same-As-Cash Loans - Loans provided by Regions Bank d/b/a EnerBank USA, Member FDIC, (650 S. Main St., Suite 1000, Salt Lake City, UT 84101-2844) on approved credit, for a limited time, 8.99%-24.49% APR, subject to change. Minimum loan amounts apply. Interest starts accruing when funds are disbursed. Interest waived if repaid in 180 days. Repayment terms vary from 18 to 126 months. Actual loan term may be shorter if less than the full approved amount of credit is used. First monthly loan payment due 180 days after funds are disbursed. **Sorry we do not redeck, resurface or add on to existing structures. 120sq. ft. min. Not valid with any other offers or estimates out! **Wood decks and porches excluded from sale. DE Bus. Lic. 2001101379 PA Lic. PA039607



FALL SPECIAL

\$500 OFF

ANY RE-ROOF OVER \$10,000

ANY RE-ROOF OVER \$10,000

NOT TO BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. ONE PER CUSTOMER.



WHY CHOOSE US

At Expert Exteriors, our contractors have been helping homeowners and business owners create beautiful establishments for over 20 years. We are a family-owned and operated business specializing in roofing in New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. Our skilled, professional team provides high-quality, specialized services performed by GAF Master Elite® Roofing Contractors.



WE DO IT ALL



- Siding
- Gutters
- New Roofs
- Flat Roofs
- Asphalt Shingle Roofing
- Structural Repair
- Tear Off and Roof Replacement
- Commercial Roofing

FREE QUOTE: 833-329-0912

ExpertExteriorsCo.com | ExpertRoofing15@gmail.com

NJ License#: 13VH11402500 | PA License#: PA163248



contents

8 'Tis the Season

Creating a fall home maintenance checklist is key to avoid any potential issues and make sure your property is ready for the harsh winter weather

18 A Little Extra Love

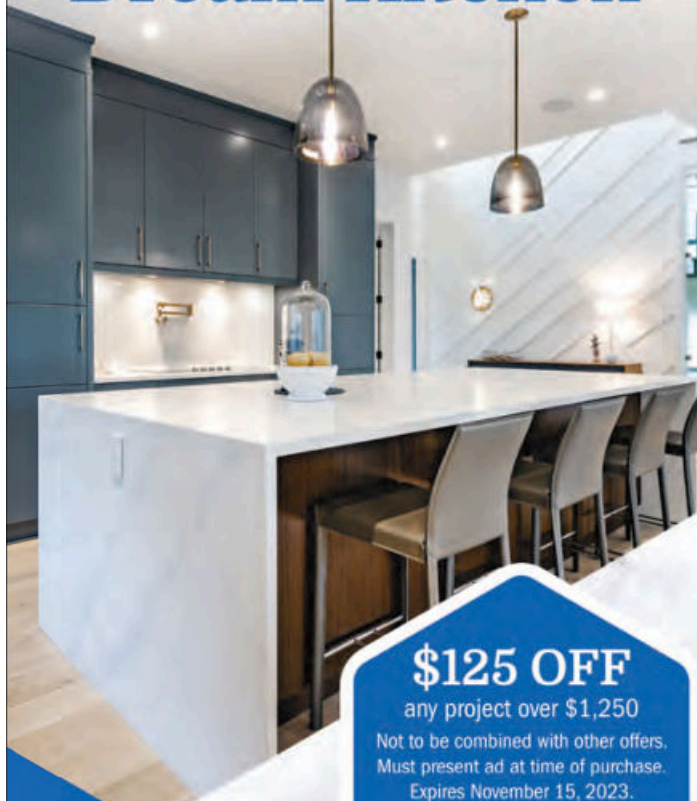
Autumn's arrival is the perfect time to make sure your landscaping stays in tip-top shape and is ready to thrive next Spring

23 Versatility and Variety

No matter the project, Architectural Concrete Design delivers results that dazzle clients



This Is The Year For Your Dream Kitchen



\$125 OFF

any project over \$1,250

Not to be combined with other offers.

Must present ad at time of purchase.

Expires November 15, 2023.

**Showroom Open to
Safely Serve You**

Creating masterpieces with
marble, granite and tile for
more than 20 years. Kitchens,
bathrooms, fireplaces, floors,
foyers and more.



301 East Market Street
West Chester, PA 19382

610-344-7700

Monday-Friday 8am-5pm
& Saturdays 8am-4pm

AAAmarble.com



PA015797





Welcome to **THE GREAT INDOORS**

Featuring retractable screens that keep bugs out, let fresh air in, and disappear when you don't need them.

Even better, for a limited time, you can save \$50 when you buy a Phantom door screen online.

Visit phantomscreensphiladelphia.com
and use promo code "OpenDoors2023"
to claim your \$50 discount



PHANTOM®
S C R E E N S



An Authorized Dealer
of Phantom Screens

HOUSE & HOME

YOUR #1 RESOURCE AND DESIGN MAGAZINE SINCE 1999

housemagazine.com

PUBLISHER

Edward P. McCartney

EDITOR

Peter Proko

ASSISTANT EDITORS

Matt Cosentino, Madeleine Maccar, Carly Murray

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Kristen Dowd, Kristen Jorgensen

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Hank Alspach

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Brian Mikulski

DESIGNERS

Alex Bianco, Jay Urbaniak, Lisa Zollinger

ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR

Darlene Versak

SALES DIRECTOR

Lindsay Gonzalez

SALES MANAGER

Jim Romano

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPER

Chuck McKane

MARKETING CONSULTANTS

Kristine Di Nardo, Rochelle Dodge, Frank Liantonio,

Julian Rosado, Lori Vorgang, Amy B. Weiss

ACCOUNTANT

Max Haggerty

DIGITAL MEDIA DIRECTOR

Leigh Stuart

PUBLISHER EMERITUS

Bob Doran

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS

Gerry Haggerty, Edward P. McCartney

HOUSE & HOME

HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, dba HOUSE & HOME ("H&H"). H&H reserves the right to determine the suitability of all materials submitted for publication and to edit all submitted materials for clarity and space. H&H is not responsible for loss, damage or any other injury to unsolicited manuscripts, unsolicited artwork or any other unsolicited materials. Furthermore, H&H will assume that unsolicited photographs, as well as ad photographs, are being submitted for possible publication and should they be published, no fee is due the photographer or model unless otherwise agreed upon in advance in writing.

HOUSE & HOME is a news magazine with emphasis on home repair and remodeling. H&H does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertising or editorial content, nor does H&H or its staff, editors or writers assume responsibility should such advertising or editorial content appear in any publications. Readers are encouraged to notify H&H if they suspect false or misleading advertising.

Before attempting any renovation or repair project mentioned in H&H, readers are advised to consult with professional home repair and renovation specialists for assistance, and to take any and all appropriate safety precautions.

HOUSE & HOME has not independently tested any products or services advertised herein and has verified no claims made by its advertisers regarding those services or products. HOUSE & HOME makes no warranties or representations and assumes no liability for any claims regarding those services or products made by advertisers regarding such products or services. Readers are advised to consult with the advertiser and/or other home repair and renovation professionals regarding any such claims and regarding the suitability of an advertiser's products.

No reproduction of printed materials is permitted without the consent of the publisher of HOUSE & HOME. Copyright 2012 by HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, all rights reserved. Subscription available for home delivery at our website, www.HouseMagazine.com, at a cost of \$19.95 per year.

National Sales Office:

HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC

700 E. Main St.

Norristown, PA 19401

Phone: 610-272-3120 Fax: 610-272-2805

Email: info@housemagazine.com

Regional Editions:

Bucks County HOUSE & HOME - PA

Central Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

Delaware HOUSE & HOME - DE

DelChester/Main Line West HOUSE & HOME - PA

Montco/Main Line East HOUSE & HOME - PA

Northern Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

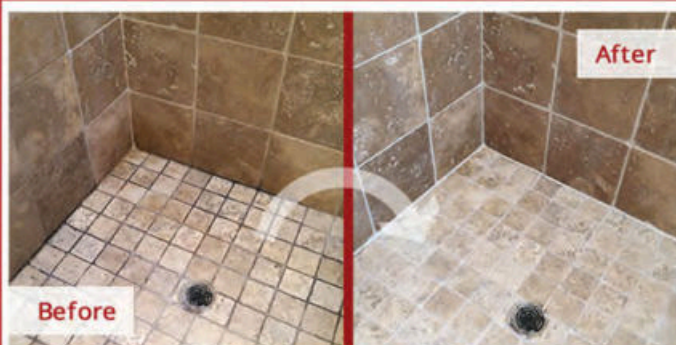
South Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view digital versions of each of the above editions.

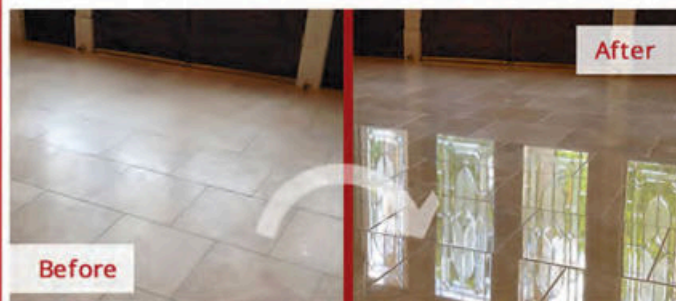


Get the free mobile app at <http://gettag.mobi>

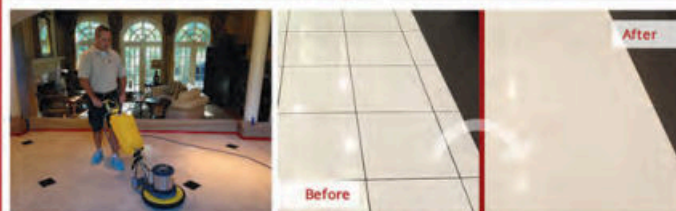
GROUT, TILE & STONE SPECIALISTS



Complete Shower Restoration



Stone Polishing & Restoration



Grout/Tile Cleaning & Sealing

\$50 OFF Any Job of \$500 or More!

*Must present at time of estimate. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Expires 10/15/2013.

NOW OFFERING
VIRTUAL ESTIMATES



Call us today to schedule a
free on-site estimate

**302
281-2161**

Expert Hard Surface Restoration

- Grout & Tile Restoration
- Caulking for Tubs/Shower/Backsplash
- Stone Restoration & Polishing
- Granite & Marble Counter Sealing/Polishing



SIR GROUT[®]
Of Delaware

www.sirgroutdelaware.com



Kitchens • Baths • Foyers • Countertops • Floors • Walls

'TIS THE SEASON

Preparing for the colder months in the Northeast shouldn't be left to the last minute—or to chance. Trusted local professionals provide their advice for getting your home ready for the winter season. **BY CARLY MURRAY**



When disaster strikes, it's difficult to handle damage to a home's exterior in the midst of an emergency. That is why anticipating inclement and extreme cold weather should begin in early autumn—and forming a relationship with a contractor ahead of time can provide insurance that a household will stay warm and protected. *House & Home* spoke to local professionals who specialize in multiple categories from maintenance to replacement, and offered valuable advice for a fall checklist. Across all niches of home installations and repairs, all agree that now is the best time to get started in order to finish by the end of November.

Roofing

Roofs are subject to damage with inclement weather pummeling down directly on a home, yielding opportunity for the outdoors to invade a home's interior.

"Typically, every few years they should probably get their roof in-





spected, but if they know there was a big storm in the area, they should definitely get a check right after a storm to make sure. Because, even a half-an-inch of hail; they may not be able to see it from the ground, but it could really cause a lot of damage to your shingles within the next couple years after a hail storm. ... It starts taking the asphalt off shingles, it'll leave impressions on the shingles. Wind will tear the stripping off the edge of the shingles," says Anthony Bate, the owner of Paramount Home Solutions.

Winters in the tri-state area are characteristically more intense than other states, and having local expertise with contractors who are familiar with local weather extremes on a firsthand basis can ensure that the right materials and installation process are utilized. Ultimately, it's a more intensive process.

"The Northeast has different roofing underlayment

and shingle types, and there are siding products that we use in the Northeast that maybe wouldn't be used in other parts of the country and vice-versa," says Vic Fiore, the owner of Magnolia Home Remodeling Group.

Furthermore, damage can be caused from the sudden rises and drops in temperature experienced in the region.

"The real hot summer that we had can do a lot of damage and melt things. ... Being in this cold climate, you go from 90 degrees to 20 degrees. And what happens is that between the hot and the cold, the expansion and contraction from the hot and cold starts to crack things. It'll crack the shingles, it'll crack the flashing. The good thing is, we didn't have a horrible winter last winter, but this year they are calling for a pretty bad winter, so that's when the damage would occur. And that's why they need to get their roof inspected and checked out before the bad weather comes. When it's 20 degrees and we have a wind chill factor, it's very difficult to put a roof on at that point. So this is obviously the best time to get it inspected," says Gary Selleck, the owner of C&C Family Roofing.



'TIS THE SEASON

Windows

Winter air—or worse, winter storms—can impact the inside of a home if windows are not properly secured. Any gaps or cracks can lead to a chilly draft indoors, and snow, hail or freezing rain can easily get through and create water damage. Fierce winds can also contribute to further breakage if windows are already damaged.

“A big thing in the winter is windows. We do a lot of window replacements. That’s kind of something that you can see and noticeably feel the effect of when you change your windows in the wintertime, as far as keeping the warm air in,” says Bate.

It’s always safest to get a consultation to make sure a home’s windows are sturdy and safe, so that a professional can determine if vital replacements are necessary. Once its standard functionality is taken care of, insulation can be added for extra warmth and protection.

And not only is locking one’s windows wise for safety reasons, but billowing wind can throw open windows (and doors, for that matter) and create violent back-and-forth slamming that weakens the hinges. Locking them provides that extra protection from the freezing outdoors and longevity for the product itself. When spring finally comes along, the windows will be ready to protect from intrusive insects, too.

Gutters

In the repeated circumstance of preparing for penetrating weather with the potential for major damage, commonly-neglected gutters play a key role in draining water. If a gutter is clogged, the water can build up and freeze. This can result in cracks, bursts and leaks of dirty water.

“You have to make sure that your gutters are 100% cleaned out. No leaves, no debris, no nothing in the gutters. ... Gutters are like the arteries of the roof. So if the gutters are clogged, everything stops and all the water backs up. And that’s what, in the wintertime, causes ice damming when all the water goes into the gutter,” says Selleck. “And if it doesn’t go down the downspout and out, what happens at night when it gets real cold, below 30 degrees then it freezes? All the water



freezes in the gutter and then that’s what causes ice damming. Then you have a frozen gutter and it takes days for it to unfreeze. And then if you have another rain on top of that, then it’s even worse. So having clean gutters is very, very important.”

Similar to extreme temperature changes affecting roof material, metal is easily contorted and can result in not only damage, but loud noises as pipes rupture.

Siding & Insulation

With a category as expansive as siding, it’s pertinent to know what type of product will work best with a home and what kind of protection it will provide. Larger proj-

ects inevitably take more consideration than others, requiring a bit more urgency to complete now or soon.

“It can be risky. You can do roofing or siding or windows in the middle of winter, but you have more challenges and a greater possibility for delays. Your house is exposed to extreme cold in some cases, so it’s just a more challenging, less desirable time of year ... if you’re stuck in that situation,” says Fiore.

Foam and vinyl insulation as a part of the home’s siding will provide extra protection and warmth, and save energy that is otherwise wasted by running a heater 24/7. Ultimately, it is a shield for the home



Your trees, our passion!



Since 1983 Stein Tree Service has provided exceptional tree care services to customers throughout New Castle County and beyond. Our groundsman, climbers and foreman have well over 100 years of combined experience. We have the capabilities, equipment and capacity to handle nearly any job. We utilize state-of-the-art equipment including aerial lift trucks and articulating aerial lifts, chippers and chipper trucks, cranes, skid steers and stump grinding machines. From light trims on delicate trees to clearing an entire lot Stein Tree Service can get the job done on time and within budget.



OUR SERVICES

- Residential Tree Service
- Commercial Tree Service
- Municipal Tree Service
- Limb & Tree Removal
- Land Clearing
- Storm Damage Clean-Up
- Right-of-Way Clearing
- Stump Grinding
- Emergency Tree Assistance
- Shrub Pruning
- Cabling & Bracing



We can work with you to keep your family and your property safe.
We work with PECO and Delmarva.



(302) 478-3511

(302) 731-1718

Serving PA and DE. Call us at 302.478.3571.

\$250 OFF SUMMER SPECIAL – \$ 2000 minimum job size.
Not to be combined with any other offers. Offer must be mentioned at time of estimate.

Enhance Your Home's Exterior



- Roofing & Siding
- Windows & Doors
- Custom Porches & Decks
- New or Remodel

Standing Seam, Cedar, LP Smart Smartsite, James Hardie, Azek

Customer Satisfaction Guaranteed



PA167571

Silverline
Exteriors LLC

717-875-6430
silverlineexteriorsllc.com

'TIS THE SEASON

that protects from air and moisture.

Siding can also protect from condensation that forms when indoor warm air meets the outdoor cold air and causes decay to the material. This can occur without being directly visible, so it is essential to keep in mind.

Heating Systems

While the other elements in a fall to-do list are exterior projects to keep the cold from getting inside, a heating system is integral to circulate warmth inside. Much like any technology, check-ups and maintenance prevent any potential risks and make sure it works when needed. After many months of not being in use, it's never guaranteed that a heating system will operate when it is finally turned back on.

"People [need to be] proactive about their systems and to make sure their filters are changed. A lot of people don't keep regular maintenance plans; so, making sure that they're keeping regular maintenance just like you would do for your car is important," explains Jeff Olewine, the general manager of C&C Heating and Air Conditioning. "Like anything else that's a mechanical piece of equipment, just make sure that you're keeping it up to date with the tune-ups and things like that."

Critical thinking and adequate planning have the bonus benefit of saving money, too. When working with heat, it's always best to think safely to prevent malfunctioning fires or carbon monoxide leaks. Portable mini heaters hardly provide enough heat for an entire household in the Northeast, and are typically considered more dangerous without constant supervi-

sion and extra precautions.

"When systems start to run less efficiently and not work as well, it also becomes less efficient to run, so you're spending more money on your energy bills, and things like that. But most importantly is to make sure that you have heat in your home when you need it," continues Olewine.

Investing in your home as a priority is analogous to investing in all of its occupants and their quality of life. With reliable maintenance and service providers, who often specialize in multiple areas, there will be nothing to worry about throughout the entirety of winter except the holidays. **H&H**



RESOURCES

C&C Family Roofing

Willow Grove, Pa.
(215) 515-8026
CAndCFamilyRoofing.com

C&C Heating and Air Conditioning

Souderton, Pa.
(215) 799-0515
CC-HVAC.com/

Magnolia Home Remodeling Group

Union, N.J.
(855) 624-6655
MagnoliaHomeRemodeling.com

Paramount Home Solutions

Somerdale, N.J. & Souderton, Pa.
(856) 602-6600
(267) 217-6289
ParamountHS.com



Home TrimworkTM

Making Your Home "A Model Home"



www.HomeTrimwork.com

800-888-4467

- Crown Molding
- Window Moldings
- Fireplace
- Wood Floors
- Wainscot
- Picture Frames
- Mantles
- Staircases
- Archways
- Raised Panels
- Built-Ins
- Painting and more!

License PA: 003315 NJ:13VH05107600 DE: 2006203461

Zero Interest Financing and FREE design consultation!





STOCK & CUSTOM DESIGNS

Quality Buildings Built to Last



4940 Lincoln Hwy. P.O Box 123

Kinzers, PA 17535

Ph: 717.442.8655 | Fax: 717.442.4747

riehlquality.com | sales@riehlquality.com

PA039964

Complete Home Remodeling



A. W. VIOHL CONTRACTING^{LLC}

Check our website for special offers

viohlcontracting.com • 302-375-6166



Locally-owned and family-operated, **A. W. Viohl Contracting, LLC** provides turn-key renovation and contracting services to **Delaware and Pennsylvania**. Since 2008, we have had the privilege of servicing the needs of hundreds of satisfied homeowners. Our mission has been to build a business based on honesty and integrity, providing quality workmanship at a competitive price.

We are not satisfied until you are.

Our skilled team of contractors provide start to finish home remodeling and new construction services, including kitchen and bathroom renovations, basement fit-outs, three season room construction, and installation of new decks and porches. It is our goal to bring your vision of what your home could be to life.

Since there will not be a Home Show event this year
WE ARE OFFERING YOU A SPECIAL HOME SHOW OFFER
CONTACT US FOR DETAILS ON THIS SPECIAL OFFER



COMMERCIAL &
INDUSTRIAL
COATINGS
AVAILABLE

APEX

CONCRETE
COATING
SOLUTIONS

WE'VE GOT YOUR FLOORS COVERED!

- 4X STRONGER THAN EPOXY • EASY TO KEEP CLEAN • WILL NOT CHIP OR PEEL
- 100% ANTIBACTERIAL, ANTIMICROBIAL AND EASY ON THE FEET

GARAGE, PATIOS, BASEMENTS, LAUNDRY ROOMS, POOLDECKS



ONE DAY GARAGE FLOORS

Call for a No Obligation Free Quote **(302) 993-6716**

apexconcretecoatingsolutions.com | www.facebook.com/Apex-Concrete-Coating-Solutions

SUNKEN OR UNEVEN CONCRETE? RAISE IT, DON'T REPLACE IT!

WE RAISE & LEVEL SUNKEN CONCRETE, ELIMINATING THE NEED FOR CONCRETE REPLACEMENT
- MUDJACKING IS 1/3 TO 1/2 THE COST OF CONCRETE REPLACEMENTS -

Our Green Process is Perfect For:

Sidewalks • Driveways • Expansion Joint Repair • Crack Repair
Patios & Porches • Swimming Pool Surrounds • Any Other Slab Concrete Surfaces

**MOST JOBS
COMPLETED IN
ONE DAY!**

**BEST
PRICES
IN TOWN!**

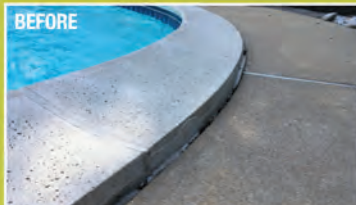
• SIDEWALKS STARTING AT \$400
• DRIVEWAYS STARTING AT \$800
• POOL SURROUNDS STARTING AT \$1200
OVER 16 YEARS EXPERIENCE • FULLY LICENSED & INSURED • NO LIC #13VW03146500

**THE
MUDJACKING
GUY**

WE LEVEL SUNKEN CONCRETE

Call Today For
Your **FREE** Estimate
856-767-2269

TheMudjackingGuy.com



Don't Pressure Wash It VESTA WASH IT!



BEFORE

AFTER

- WE CLEAN **ROOFS**
- WE CLEAN **SIDING**
- WE CLEAN **STUCCO**
- WE CLEAN **WINDOWS**
- WE ALSO CLEAN

**CEDAR, GUTTERS, DECKS
PLUS MUCH MORE**

50% OFF
Exterior Window Wash

If job is booked by 9/30/2023

VestaWash • 484-582-6799

With this coupon. Prior sales excluded. Some restrictions apply.
Not valid with other offers or prior services. Expires 9/30/2023.
Go To VestaWash.com/Window for Coupons and Details.

Visit VestaWash.com/Window
to receive your coupon.

Call us or check out our website

484-582-6799

VestaWash.com/Window





38th Anniversary!



**LARGEST INVENTORY OF QUARTZ, MARBLE,
GRANITE & QUARTZITE ON THE EAST COAST**

Precision Fabrication of:

Granite Countertops • Marble Countertops • Quartz Countertops • Natural Stones
Over 800 colors and 16,000 slabs in stock. Only produce on state-of-the-art CNC machinery
All inventory imported directly from overseas

CALL NOW FOR SPECIAL PRICING
(609) 984-8818 • stonetechnmarble.com

Stone Tech
930 New York Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08638

Hours
Monday - Friday 8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Saturday 9:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
Sunday CLOSED

 @stonetechnfabrication

Authorized dealer of:

 **SILESTONE**


CAMBRIA

 **caesarstone**



A Little Extra Love

Autumn's arrival provides the perfect opportunity to keep your landscaping looking its very best.

by **Kristen Jorgensen**

AS THE LEAVES CHANGE COLORS AND THE TEMPERATURE BEGINS TO DROP, IT'S TIME TO SHIFT YOUR FOCUS TO FALL LANDSCAPING. Autumn offers a unique opportunity to enhance the beauty of your outdoor space, whether you have a sprawling garden or a cozy backyard. In this article, we'll explore some fall landscaping ideas and offer tips to help you make the most of this vibrant season.

EMBRACE THE FALL COLORS

One of the most enchanting aspects of autumn is the kaleidoscope of colors that nature provides. To make the most of this, consider planting trees and shrubs that are known for their vibrant fall foliage.



Chris DeMato of Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing shares, "Maple trees, for instance, display stunning red, orange and yellow leaves, while burning bushes and dog-

woods also offer beautiful autumn hues. Bradford pears and most deciduous trees will turn either yellow or orange before they shed their leaves while adding interest to your property. Also, planting ornamental grasses like switchgrass or maiden grass can add a touch of elegance to your fall landscape."

"Incorporating seasonal flowers is also a great way to bring color to your yard. Although summer is typically associated with vibrant blooms, fall has its array of gorgeous flowers," explains David Flack, owner of Bountiful Acres.

"Chrysanthemums, asters and pansies are perfect for autumn, and they come in a variety of colors to suit your aesthetic preferences. Plant them in pots, containers or directly in



the ground to create colorful focal points in your landscape.”

MAINTAIN YOUR LAWN

A well-maintained lawn can also enhance the overall appeal of your fall landscape. “Keep up with regular mowing, but raise the blade slightly to allow the grass to grow a bit longer as the weather cools,” offers Flack.

Autumn is also an excellent time for lawn aeration and overseeding to ensure a lush, green lawn come spring. “Grass is the hardiest perennial in your entire yard, and the fall is the best time to invest more time into it. All the work you put into your grass during fall will only lead to greener and lushier results in the spring,” Flack adds.

PREPARING YOUR POND FOR WINTER

It’s important to know how to win-

terize a pond and prepare fish to withstand the harsh winter. Over a year, your pond will accumulate debris and organics such as leaves, twigs, grass clippings and fish waste. Left unchecked, decaying debris can release toxic gas and reduce oxygen levels. Removing this debris and replacing filtration systems with aeration kits and de-icers will help ensure oxygen levels stay as high as possible and provide aeration, ventilation and circulation throughout the winter months.

“When fall officially arrives, and the trees start losing their leaves, we often recommend netting your pond,” says George Mihalachick of Ponds by George.

Fall netting is intended for collecting debris, and is often a choice to use for predator protection, which is why some pond owners even choose to leave the net stay in place until spring, but it is important to note that these nets are not designed to carry a heavy snow load, and should be removed in the winter before any snowfall.

“Once all the leaves have fallen, begin your fall pond care by removing any netting. Pond netting should be stored indoors to keep it safe from wear and tear due to heavy snowfall and ice,” says Mihalachick.

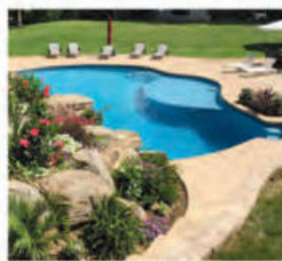
As fall ends and winter approaches, plants will naturally fall into a dormant state. To winterize hardy plants, use your pruning tools to trim off dead foliage just above the soil. Removing debris that may have made it into the pond, should also be removed.



ARCHITECTURAL **ACD** CONCRETE
D E S I G N®
By Christopher McMahon Contracting, Inc.

1.866.956.2818

www.ACDconcrete.com



Pool Deck



Walkway



Patio



Driveway

FALL
SPECIAL

\$500 OFF

Tri-State’s largest
builder of decorative
concrete systems,
for over 25 years.
Residential &
Commercial



“Rotting leaves, twigs or dead aquatic plants will put stress on your pond’s oxygen levels throughout the winter, which puts your fish at risk. I recommend removing leaves and debris from ponds and streams with the help of a hand net if possible,” Mihalchick details.

Another way to keep fish safe when temperatures drop is with the help of aeration and de-icers help to keep a hole open in the ice during winter months. “This prevents harmful gases from being trapped under the ice and allows oxygen levels to stay saturated in the pond. Or if your pond has a waterfall, leave it running, the movement will cause a natural opening,” Mihalchick explains.

ADD HARDSCAPE ELEMENTS

Incorporating hardscape elements like stone pathways, patios and fire pits can extend the usability of your outdoor space well into

the fall months.

“The fall is a great time to invest in new hardscaping projects. Landscaping companies typically aren’t as busy in the fall, as they are in the spring months, so it’s a great time to schedule larger projects. Something like a cozy fire pit

not only provides warmth but also creates a welcoming ambiance for gatherings with friends and family,” says DeMato.

Stone pathways lined with autumn-themed decorations can add a touch of rustic charm to your landscaping. Flack agrees and also

encourages decorating with seasonal accents to infuse your landscape with the spirit of fall.

“Consider adding seasonal accents like pumpkins, gourds, and hay bales. Arrange these items strategically around your garden or front porch for a festive and



SPEND MORE TIME WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY

SPECIALIZING IN DECKS,
PORCHES, & PERGOLAS
SINCE 2003



717-407-5623
DECKSRUSLLC.COM
AZEK PA010638

inviting look. Cornstalks, scarecrows and wreaths made from fall foliage and flowers can also be wonderful additions to your outdoor décor,” he says.

FOCUS ON LIGHTING

As the days grow shorter, outdoor lighting becomes increasingly important for both safety and ambiance. Adding path lights, uplighting trees and string lights to create a warm and inviting atmosphere in your outdoor space. The soft glow of well-placed lighting can make your landscape feel magical during the fall evenings.

PLANTING FOR SPRING

Most homeowners typically get hit with spring fever and refocus their home improvement projects to the outside, but Karen Frederick from ELA Landscaping advises that this is a common landscaping misconception.

“Fall is an excellent time to get your hands dirty and plant new additions to your garden. The scorching heat of summer has

passed, but it’s not yet freezing cold. Fall moderate temperatures create ideal conditions for plants to establish their roots without the stress of extreme weather,” she says. “As the weather cools down, your garden will require less water. This means less maintenance and lower water bills while your new plants become established.”

While fall is certainly known for its vibrant foliage, it’s essential to maintain visual interest in your landscape throughout the year. “Planting evergreen shrubs and trees can provide the necessary structure and color contrast during the colder months when deciduous plants lose their leaves,” adds Frederick.

Popular evergreen choices include junipers, arborvitae and various types of holly.

PREPARE FOR WINTER

Lastly, don’t forget to prepare your landscape for the winter ahead. This may involve cleaning up fallen leaves, mulching garden beds and protecting delicate plants from

frost. Be sure to also take care of any necessary maintenance tasks, such as pruning, before the harsh winter weather sets in.

“The fall is the ideal time to survey your property for any issues. Make a list of things that need to be cleaned, any hardscaping repairs, fence repairs, dead plant material, or even dead growth on trees that can be hazardous,” advises DeMato. “Addressing these matters before winter can prevent greater expense if let to linger.”

Fall is a wonderful time to enhance your outdoor space and create a captivating landscape that celebrates the beauty of the season. By embracing the colors, incorporating seasonal elements and paying attention to maintenance, you can transform your yard or garden into a stunning autumn retreat. So, roll up your sleeves, put on your gardening gloves and let your creativity flow as you embark on your fall landscaping project. Your outdoor space will become a welcoming haven for you and your loved ones to enjoy throughout this



RESOURCES

Bountiful Acres

Holicong, Pa.
(215) 794-7043
BountifulAcres.com

ELA Outdoor Living

Doylestown, Pa.
(215) 794-2400
ELAOutdoorLiving.com

Ponds by George

Southampton, Pa.
(215) 396-7500
PondsByGeorge.com

Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing

Belle Mead, N.J.
(732) 873-6780
RockBottomLandscaping.net

enchanting season. **H&H**

THE SAME DAY CONCRETE FLOOR COATING SYSTEM

DON'T JUST SEAL IT. FLOOR SHIELD IT.

Floor Shield 100% polyaspartic coatings lead the concrete coatings industry by **outperforming and **outlasting** other polyaspartics, epoxies, and polyurethanes.**

They're rugged enough to withstand abrasion, scratching, and wear from heavy foot and vehicle traffic, and staining and degradation from most household foods and chemicals. But they're beautiful enough to provide a bright, clean, revitalized appearance to your home.

• Garage Floors • Patios • Pool Decks • Basements • Walkways • And More...

We empty your garage and then put your items back safely.

ASK ABOUT OUR 15 YEAR WARRANTY



1 PREP



2 INSTALL



3 CURE & WALK-ON

**MULTI LAYERED
Locked-in
Long-lasting
quality**



**CALL TODAY FOR A FREE
QUOTE & CONCRETE
INSPECTION!**

Financing Available
(302) 482-3124
www.floorshieldde.com



“
I WAITED
A LIFETIME
FOR THIS
KITCHEN.
*I'D DO IT
AGAIN.*”



It's where the magic happens. It's where the big conversations take place. And at the end of the night, it's where everybody wants to be. That's why you should have the kitchen you deserve.

With the region's deepest inventory of natural and engineered stone, an unsurpassed selection of fixtures and accessories and unparalleled design and installation expertise, Colonial Marble & Granite can help you realize the rooms of your dreams.

ALL-IN KITCHEN
\$6999

CABINETS | COUNTERTOPS | SINK
FAUCET | HARDWARE

CABINET INSTALLATION NOT INCLUDED.
AVAILABLE ON FABWOOD ONLY. EASED EDGE.
PROMOTION ON 10 X 10 LINEAR FT KITCHEN CABINETS.

THE CORNERSTONE OF A BEAUTIFUL HOME

BATHROOM + KITCHEN DESIGN | FABRICATION | INSTALLATION | IN-HOME CONSULTATIONS | GENERATORS

KING OF PRUSSIA | PHILADELPHIA | HARRISBURG | NEW CASTLE

LIC# PA 040713 | LIC# NJ 13VH06363500 | LIC# DE 2011604522 | LIC# MD 115930

COLONIALMARBLE.NET



Versatility and Variety

At **Architectural Concrete Design**, clients can expect a skilled team that treats each project as a partnership and understands how to enhance a home's curb appeal.

by **Madeleine Maccar**

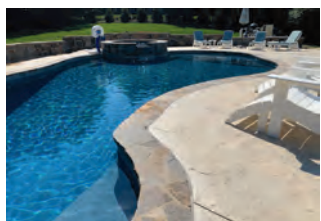
In his five years with Architectural Concrete Design (ACD), Adam Myers has learned that clients are often surprised by their options.

"A lot of people are still unaware of what they can do with concrete," says the company's director of residential sales. "They'll pull pictures from Pinterest or Google and say, 'I love how this looks but I don't know how to get there.' ... That's where we can come in and make them aware of any material limitations and how decorative concrete can give them a similar look in their backyard."

That commitment to educating customers separates ACD from the competition. Whether the team is working on a customized pool deck, driveway, patio or walkway, one thing remains the same: Every job is rooted in respect.

"It should feel like a partnership from the beginning," says Myers. "We want the homeowner to understand we're listening to them. Their first form of contact comes from the office, they'll be contacted quickly by our design team. From that point, it's setting up an appointment, getting some face time, and having a design professional walk around your yard with you and really listen to what your vision is. Very few hardscape contractors open up a conversation like we do at the design phase."

Transparency supersedes netting a sale, he adds. "The designer doesn't leave until they understand exactly what the homeowner wants. Every decision we make throughout the process can easily be justified or explained because we're



doing everything in the homeowner's best interest."

Getting to know each client and their expectations, lifestyle, property, budget and vision allows ACD to deliver completely customized results every time.

And with concrete options that go beyond pavers to offer a seemingly infinite multitude of finishes and color combinations, the team knows exactly how to deliver an elegant, impressive final project guaranteed to last.

"With stamped concrete, we have versatility of color, texture and pattern selection—I'm confident you can find a fit for any home," Myers says. "We've done projects on new-construction homes that are incredibly modern-looking, all white and black; we've done 5,000-, even 10,000-square-foot driveways; we've done 300-square-foot patios with a designated space the client wants to look decorative, but the space is so limited that you have to be really intentional about what you pick. ... It's incredibly adaptable, and you can't get that look with any other paving material, only concrete."

"That's one of the coolest parts of being in this space: There really are no limitations on the product," he continues. "The designers can be creative, the guys in the field can be creative, it's something new every day."

Designers' creativity and homeowners' visions must work hand in hand, though, for a smooth installation phase. Collaboration and communication are critical, ensuring clients know their voices are heard and that the ACD team can get the job done in a timely fashion

while also meeting their high standards.

"We want that mutual respect where the homeowners know the feedback and perspective we're offering all work toward the same goal: making sure they're getting something they're going to love for 20, 30 years," Myers explains. "It should feel like we're working with you."

"Homeowners are encouraged to be onsite during the first building phase: They can see what we're doing, and we can inform them immediately of unforeseen changes our installers may need to make. After breaking ground, there's always a chance something unexpected happens—you want someone experienced in your corner to best handle that. We know how to navigate those circumstances, come up with effective solutions and illustrate that to the homeowner."

ACD's expertise and a variety of options mean the team always knows how to arrive at the design that perfectly complements a home and is in harmony with the project's surroundings. Working with the existing colors, patterns, textures and materials already present onsite is a win for the homeowner, since they won't need to redo their whole yard's aesthetic to still have the space "flow," even with a brand-new concrete project.

With ACD's 30th anniversary coming, it's a milestone the entire organization is proud of. But it's not just the company that can boast longtime success in delivering dazzling results, as much of its team has called ACD home for over two decades.

"What really sets us apart is the installers and their experience," Myers notes. "We have multiple guys who have been here for over 20 years—I don't know too many places that can say that. With concrete, our guys are physically crafting the product in the field so it's a new product every time—that's why it comes down to the guys forming and making that material. This is an industry where there's a direct correlation between the installers' experience and the product's quality." **H&H**



Architectural Concrete Design
3001 New Falls Road, Levittown, Pa.
(215) 946-5039 | ACDConcrete.com

KOHLER CRUSHED STONE SHOWERS BY HOME SMART INDUSTRIES



\$1000 OFF

plus

**\$0 PAYMENTS
0% INTEREST**

TIL 2025 ON ANY
SHOWER REPLACEMENT

HURRY, OFFERS EXPIRE 12/31/2023

KOHLER

AMERICA'S ONLY
FAMILY OWNED
150 YEAR OLD
PLUMBING CO.



- **Real crushed marble** shower walls
- **PROUDLY** sourced & made in the **USA**
- Prices **comparable** to acrylic showers
- **Senior & Military** discounts + financing
- Installed in 1-2 days by our trained & certified **KOHLER** Specialists
- Call NOW and ask us why our **LIFETIME WARRANTY** is so much better than all the other warranties!

CALL HOME SMART TODAY

TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE IN-HOME ESTIMATE.

888-560-2592

>MUST CALL THIS NUMBER<

WWW.KOHLERBATHS.US



*Cannot be combined with any other offer. Previous sales excluded. Good at initial presentation only. Additional work is extra and optional. Financing available for qualified buyers.
PA:PA013302 * NJ: 13VH 04301900 MD: MD129485 * DE: 2008206060 **NO PRICE QUOTES GIVEN VIA PHONE.**



3DAYBLINDS®
YOU'LL LOVE THE TREATMENT

**Quality Blinds, Shades,
Shutters & Drapery**

HURRY! Limited Time Offer!

Buy 1 Get 1

50%^{*}
OFF

**on Custom Blinds,
Shades & Drapery**

★ PLUS ★

FREE

**In-Home Design
Consultation**



Motorized Shades Available

**Call
Today &
SAVE!**

Call To Schedule

1-866-874-2547

or visit **www.3DayOffer666.com**

**WE BRING
THE SHOWROOM
TO YOU!**

We DESIGN, We MEASURE, We INSTALL, You RELAX!®



Personalized Experience | Fast Service | Trusted Brand

*Offer valid on 3 Day Blinds brand products only, excluding shutters and special orders. Buy 1 qualifying window covering and receive the 2nd qualifying window covering of equal or lesser value at 50% off! Offer excludes installation, sales tax, shipping and handling. Not valid on previous purchases or with any other offer or discount. **Offer Code BGXB. Expires 1/31/24.** State Contractor and Home Improvement Licenses: Arizona 321056. California 1005986. Connecticut HIC.0644950. New Jersey 13VH09390200. Oregon 209181. Pennsylvania PA107656. Tennessee 10020. Washington 3DAYBDB842KS. County Licenses: Nassau County, NY H0107310100. Rockland County, NY H-12401-34-00-00. Licensed through Great Windows Services, LLC: Virginia 2705172678. West Virginia WV061238. Various City Licenses Available Upon Request. © 2023 3 Day Blinds.



Power failures *fail* to impress us.

Outside, there are forces beyond our control. But here inside, thanks to a reliable, affordable and efficient home generator from Colonial, the power is in your hands.

NO HIDDEN FEES
ONE DAY INSTALLATION
24/7 MONITORING
FREE EXTENDED WARRANTY (\$900 Value)**
\$0 DOWN AND 0% MONTHLY INTEREST
for 18 Months***

AS LOW AS
\$125/Month*

EMPOWER YOURSELF
COLONIALGENERATORS.COM
844.376.9374

*Subject to credit approval. Based on total transaction amount of \$9,999.00 with fixed equal payments over 132 months at 9.99% interest.

**Extended warranties apply to Generac equipment only.

***Subject to credit approval. See plan 253 on website for details.



GENERAC

**KOHLER
GENERATORS**