

Exteriors

The Bartlett Brainard Products Newsletter



A custom-made door surround by Trim Solutions

Welcome to this Fall issue of *Exteriors!*

Summer has turned to Fall and it is time to get those pre-winter projects completed. Review our seasonal to-do list, as well as "Cathy's Referral" and the articles on insulation and roofing.

And don't forget to look at this quarter's project highlight of a new portico's ability to transform the curb appeal of a West Hartford Colonial.

If you have any specific information requests, please call us at 860-233-4475. We are here to help you bring out the best in your home, with Quality You Can Trust.

Catherine Y. Davis
Cathy@BartlettBrainard.com

9/13

Fall / Winter Hours



With Summer over, Bartlett Brainard Products returns to regular hours:

Monday - Friday: 8am to 4pm. Saturdays 8am-11am



Ice Dams & Insulation

The best way to avoid ice dams is to have proper insulation and venting in your attic.

Insulation requirements vary by climate and area and are measured in R-values. The better the insulating power or resistance, the higher the R-Value. The Energy Star.gov website reports between R49 to R60 in attics as cost effective in our climate zone.

For attic **ventilation**, the U.S. FHA (Federal Housing Administration) recommends a **minimum** of at least 1 square foot of attic ventilation (both intake and exhaust) for every 300 square feet of attic space.

If you have had trouble with ice dams and are wondering if your attic has enough insulation and ventilation, call Bartlett Brainard at 860-233-4475.





HOMEOWNER CHECKLIST FOR THE FALL:

- Test outside lights & replace light bulbs if needed
- Clean out gutters and downspouts.
- Wash windows, check caulking and glazing for leaks.
- Move storm windows into their "winter" position (make sure you move the screen up and INSIDE track down) Remove damaged screens.
- Power wash siding. The cool weather is the perfect time. Visit our website for a cleanser recipe
- Shut off water to outside faucets.
- Check weather stripping on windows and doors
- Check your attic's ceiling for any water stains.
- Inspect your home's exterior for gaps or holes that may be possible vermin entrances.
- If you have one, test your generator.

Cathy's Referral

BUY LOCAL

PFAU's Hardware (www.pfauhardwareinc.com) is a family-owned traditional hardware store that has been in operation since 1940 and is located in the center of West Hartford. If Pfau's doesn't have what you need, their friendly and helpful staff will refer you to a store that does. 860-523-4201

Capitol Glass (www.capitolglass.com) located on Grassmere in the Elmwood section of West Hartford, offers a realm of glazing services, from tabletops to mirrors and windows. 860-236-1936

Picture your Roof



Before winter covers your roof with snow, assess it from the ground with a camera or binoculars. Look for chipped, cracked or missing shingles. Is the granular layer worn away?

If you don't like what you see and want a professional to assess it, call Bartlett Brainard. For a limited time we are offering a free 8-point roof inspection with a video of your roof! Using a flip camera, our expert will walk your roof and share with you what he sees.

See our 8-point roofing inspection at www.bartlettbrainard.com/promotions_roofinspec.htm

Join our email list

Receive our semi-monthly e-mail letter. Our typical brief format contains a humorous home improvement video, a maintenance tip and a glimpse of what creative projects your neighbors are tackling. To sign up for our list, call 860-233-4475 or e-mail admin@bartlettbrainard.com. Bartlett Brainard Products respects your privacy. We never sell or share your name, address, phone number or email with other businesses.

Windows and Doors

They are the gateways to your home, and they should look as good as possible. Our windows and doors offer high quality protection against the elements, reduced maintenance, and increased comfort in your home.

With winter around the corner, now is the time to replace your drafty doors and windows. For entry doors, visit Bartlett Brainard's showroom or visit the ThermaTru Door site and build your own door (www.thermatru.com.) Most of their doors are energy star-rated and qualify for the 2013 tax credit.



For windows, we offer several different manufacturers' windows including Harvey, Atrium, Anderson, and Alside. They are energy-star rated and qualify for the 2013 tax credit. With the quality Bartlett Brainard installation, you are guaranteed optimum insulation.

Insulated Siding

Since 1995, vinyl siding has been the #1 choice in exterior cladding in the US. The first commercial insulated siding was introduced in 1997. **Insulated siding** has a rigid foam insulation that is laminated or permanently attached to the panel. The most commonly used insulation is expanded polystyrene which is attached with permanently flexible adhesive allowing for the normal expansion and contraction of the panel. Although insulated vinyl siding is more expensive than "hollow back" vinyl siding, insulated siding has many benefits that warrant the extra investment:



- Stiffer panels that reduce wall irregularities and sagging
- Reduced resistance to cracks and pings
- Noise reduction
- Reduction in Energy Bills

Of course, the most important difference is the last one, **Reduction in Energy Bills.** In the Vinyl Siding Institute's publication, "Insulated Siding as Home insulation: Guide for Users and Energy Raters," the following dollar saving estimates are given for homes built between 1950 and 1979 within our climate zone that have minimum 2009 required insulation level:

Insulated Siding R Value	Amount Saved
2.0	2%
2.5	3%
3.0	4%

If your house is pre 1950, the savings are higher.

Unfortunately insulated siding is not covered by the tax credit. The credit only covers materials that are "specifically and primarily designed to reduce heat loss or gain." Insulated vinyl siding has more benefits and also provides structural support and a finished surface.

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Replacing an aluminum door canopy with a custom made portico greatly enhances the look of your home. This colonial in West Hartford dressed their home up by adding a portico and new vinyl siding.



*Cathy,
Cal, Conrad, Derek,
Emory, Eric, Jim, John,
Mary, Neil, Upon*

Best Wishes for a Relaxing Fall!



From your friends at
Bartlett Brainard Products



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Roofing, Siding, Windows, Doors, Porch Enclosures, Sunrooms, Garage Doors and ...