

Exteriors

The Bartlett Brainard Products Newsletter



A replacement Harvey Bay window with copper roof at this Newington home provides elegant curb appeal.

Welcome to the Summer issue of *Exteriors!*

Summer is here, and it is time to get those summer projects completed. Review our seasonal to-do list, and read the article about changes in deductibles in the home insurance industry, as well as a report on the low impact that vinyl siding has on the environment.

And don't forget to look at this issue's project highlight, a saltbox home transformed with Monogram siding.

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

7/13

Summer Hours

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, Bartlett Brainard is closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

Summer hours are: **Monday - Friday: 8:00am to 4:00pm.**

E-mail change

Due to the separation of AT&T and Yahoo, we are losing our email addresses. Please use our new email addresses to contact us :

Cathy@BartlettBrainard.com (formerly: bartlettbrainard@snet.net)

Sales@BartlettBrainard.com (formerly: j.bartlettbrainard@snet.net)

Admin@BartlettBrainard.com (formerly: m.bartlettbrainard@snet.net)



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Home Insurance

Homeowner's insurance policies are changing in regards to deductibles. State Farm, the nation's largest home insurer, says fixed deductibles remain the standard in Northeastern states (typically about \$1,000). But more and more frequently the insurance industry is using a variable deductible based on a percentage of the home's insured value. So if a home is insured for \$100,000 and has a 2% deductible, the first \$2,000 of a claim must be paid out of the policyholder's pocket. Last year in Texas, all fixed deductibles were changed to variable deductibles, ranging between 1% to 5% of the home's insured value. "We're going to see that around the country within a few years," says Robert Hunter, director of insurance at the Consumer Federation of America.

What does this mean for you? If your home has storm damage, don't delay in having it repaired!

Better Business Bureau

As a Torch Award recipient, Bartlett Brainard takes seriously the Better Business Bureau's slogan, "Start with Trust." Visit The BBB website at www.ct.bbb.org for helpful information such as reliability of companies and how to choose a contractor. Have you been happy with Bartlett Brainard's service? **Help us receive the BBB SUPERIOR CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD** by writing a letter to us about your experience. It will be submitted with our application.

HOMEOWNER CHECKLIST FOR THE SUMMER:

- Replace worn or damaged weather-stripping on doors and caulking on windows.
- Clean out exterior lights and replace burned-out bulbs.
- Replace washers in outside faucets.
- Inspect your roof. Look for any missing, loose or cracked shingles, or gaps in flashing.
- Make sure all surface water drains away from house. Identify where water is not draining properly or if gutters are clogged.
- Repair any loose siding and power wash areas with mildew or dirt (for the detergent recipe, check your warranty or visit BartlettBrainard.com)
- Remember to position your barbeque at least 10' from your siding to prevent heat damage.

Clean your gutters

At this time of year, most roof leaks are caused by clogged gutters! Those spring Maple seeds and other planting discards will fill up your gutters. When you clean your gutters, don't overlook the downspouts. Use the hose to run water through the downspout to clear it out. If you are unable to get the hose to the downspout, drop a penny down the downspout. If it comes out the bottom, you have a clear downspout and no problems. Call us for a free estimate on leaf protection today!



Verifiable Green Siding

Vinyl siding has lower environmental impacts throughout its life cycle when compared to other exterior cladding (cedar siding, fiber cement, stucco and brick), according to a recently released study. The analysis includes all lifecycles, including raw material acquisition, manufacture, transportation, installation, use and waste management.

Vinyl siding is environmentally better in:

- Economic performance (cost to install and maintain)
- Embodied Energy (energy that goes into product over life-cycle)
- Greenhouse-gas emissions—except for cedar siding.*
- Air pollutants (ground-level ozone, CO₂, lead, sulfur and nitrogen oxides)
- Ecological Toxicity (toxic chemicals, including mercury and silver)
- Human health (emissions of dangerous chemicals during life cycle such as dioxin)
- Smog (air emissions from industry/transportation or presence of sunlight)



*When compared to Cedar Siding, Vinyl siding is better in all categories, except in Greenhouse gas emissions. Cedar's raw material (growing trees) convert Carbon Dioxide to Oxygen, giving it an initial negative effect on it's greenhouse gas emissions. However comparing carbon emissions in their total life cycle, cedar finishes only slightly better than vinyl siding.

Other green attributes of vinyl siding:

- Scrap can be fed back into manufacturing process.
- Installation generates little scrap
- Fuel efficient transport (light weight, most raw material is shipped via pipeline or rail)
- Safe to install, compared to fiber cement which contains micro-silica material and can cause scarring of the lungs
- Some vinyl siding is manufactured with recycled content
- Durable: low maintenance, service life, wind resistance, color retention, water resistance, resistance to insect damage, chemical resistant, energy efficient.

Source: "Today's Vinyl Siding: Verifiable Green" by the Sustainable Solutions Corporation and the Vinyl Siding Institute, January 2013. http://www.vinylsiding.org/ABOUTSIDING/sustainability/greenpaper/Todays_Vinyl_Siding_Verifiably_Green_Jan_2013.pdf

NARI



Bartlett Brainard Products is a proud member of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI). This is a trade association committed to education both trade professional and homeowner. NARI-RCA of Connecticut has a web site, www.narict.org, with information that will help consumers enhance their remodeling experience. They have remodeling tips, a homeowners Guide, warning signs and a list of things to ask before signing. NARI also has a printed booklet. Please give us a call if you would like a copy sent to you. Your home is one of your biggest investments, improvements should be made wisely.

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Granite Gray 4" Monogram CertainTeed siding recreated this charming Saltbox house in Middlebury. The simple lines and understated window mantels make this home seem larger and more inviting. And without the old aluminum siding, it is more energy efficient!



*Cathy,
Ed, Cal, Conrad, Danel,
Emory, Eric, Jim, John,
Mary, Neil, Yvon*

Best Wishes for a Relaxing Summer!

From your friends at
Bartlett Brainard Products

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