

On The Level—News For Your Home

***** Breaking News*****

On February 17th, President Obama signed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that gives homeowners a **tax credit** equal to **30% of their investment in qualifying energy efficient windows, doors, skylights, and insulation** as well as heat pumps, central air, water heaters, furnaces and more. There is a \$1500 lifetime cap. The percentage of the cost and the lifetime cap have been tripled over the existing credit.

Studies have shown that existing homes, especially those built more than 20 years ago, are responsible for a large amount of our nation's energy consumption. Retrofitting these existing homes with energy-efficient features is more effective in reducing energy consumption than making changes to new housing energy efficiency requirements.

It is important to note that not all products qualify, even if they are Energy Star rated. Many replacement windows with basic Low E and Argon glass packages will *not* qualify. Two of our window lines do meet the additional requirements of a U factor below 0.30 and a Solar Heat Gain Coefficient below 0.30. Energy efficient products must be placed in service in 2009 or 2010.

Vinyl Siding

Vinyl siding can be less expensive than wood but its greatest benefit is low maintenance. No painting or staining! The photos at right show a variety of grains, thicknesses and colors available in some of the projects we have recently completed.



Around Our Town

On March 14th at 11 a.m. the **Tenth Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade** marches through Old Town Manassas. This year promises more Irish and Bagpipe Bands along with decorated floats, dance groups, marching bands and community groups, all practicing the "wearing of the green" and carrying the Irish flag. You may wonder how this annual tradition got its start. A group of brothers of the Father Kelley Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians wished to share their proud Irish heritage with the Manassas community. It took 15 months of planning before the first parade was held on March 18, 2000. Stepping in to help was the Fraternal Brothers of the George Brent Council 5332 of the Knights of Columbus. The parade was a hit with the community and has been held each year since. Saint Patrick, the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland, is thought to have been born in the late 4th century. Well known for bringing Christianity to Ireland, St. Patrick is equally well known for driving the snakes from Ireland. Actually, Ireland probably never had snakes since the island was separated from the mainland at the end of the Ice Age. But the story serves as a metaphor for driving the pagan symbol of snakes from Ireland. Traditionally, St. Patrick's Day is a day for spiritual renewal and offering prayers for missionaries around the world. Over the years, it's become a celebration of all things Irish. For more information, visit <http://www.stpatparade.net>.



Want to receive our newsletter by e-mail? Send a blank e-mail to info@grecoremodelers.com with "SUBSCRIBE" in the Subject line and we will be happy to put your name on our e-mail list to receive this newsletter.

Handyman Services from Greco Remodelers

Do you have some of those nagging household chores you just can't seem to get finished? Our Handyman Services may be just what you are looking for! Here are a few of the items we can do for you:

- ◇ Install lock or deadbolt
- ◇ Hardware
- ◇ Caulking
- ◇ Replace light switch
- ◇ Replace tub and shower caulking
- ◇ Grout and tile repair
- ◇ Drywall repair
- ◇ Wall tile replacement
- ◇ Stained ceiling and wall repair
- ◇ Door repair
- ◇ Leaky toilet repair
- ◇ Window repair
- ◇ Wood rot repair
- ◇ Shelving
- ◇ Ramp
- ◇ Closet
- ◇ Pet Door
- ◇ Painting
- ◇ Hang interior door
- ◇ Molding
- ◇ Install grab bar
- ◇ Install storm door
- ◇ Install shower door
- ◇ And more . . .

Extended!
**Handyman
 Sale**
**First Hour
 Free**

Minimum of 4 hours

Expires 3/31/09

Does not apply to prior contracts or handyman services

We only offer handyman services to our past customers. Call our office today at 703-369-4446 to schedule your work.

Daylight Saving
 Time
 Begins on
 Sunday,
 March 8
 Spring forward!

On Sunday evening,
 set your clocks an hour
 ahead when you retire.



What our customers are saying:

"My 'thank you' seems so small compared to all you've done but it comes from my heart."

Barbara Satnarine

"It's wonderful a past customer can call up and get something done at one's home."

Linda Horne

"The difference from our old door to this one was amazing. Heat runs less and house is even toasty all around."

Margaret Peckholdt

"Employees were very customer service oriented and professional. I'm glad I found a company who does good work and that I trust."

Robert and Ava Blair

Reminder!

Before making your next remodeling move, give us a call first. If we can't help you, we may be able to refer you to someone who can.

Poison Prevention Week: March 15-21, 2009

Most poisonings occur in the home

Poison Control Centers receive more than 2 million accidental poisoning calls each year. More than 90 percent of non-fatal poisoning occurs in the home and most involve children, according to the Poison Control Centers.

* To protect your children, choose child-resistant packaging wherever possible and close containers tightly after every use. Store hazardous products in a safe place and out of children's reach.

These include personal care products, such as baby oil and mouthwash; cleaning substances including drain and oven cleaners; over-the-counter pain relievers including ibuprofen and aspirin; and cough and cold medicines. Adult-strength vitamins and supplements containing iron are dangerous to kids. Hydrocarbons, such as lamp oil and furniture polish, are a danger.

* Adults may poison themselves by taking prescription or over-the-counter medications improperly. Always read directions carefully and follow them exactly.

* Wear protective clothing when spraying pesticides or other chemicals. Pesticides can be absorbed through the skin and are very poisonous. Stay away from areas that have recently been sprayed.

* Keep all products in their original containers. Never sniff a product to discover what's inside.

* Lead poisoning is well known, but heavy metals are poisonous too. Mercury, thallium, arsenic, and iron (tablets) should be handled with caution.

Food poisoning is common. Always use safe food-handling procedures.



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Greco Remodelers, Inc.
8817 Commerce Court
Manassas, VA 20110

We Specialize in . . .

- Bathrooms
- Kitchens
- Replacement Windows
- Doors
- Vinyl Siding
- Handyman Services

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