

LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER OF OLYMPIA MASTER BUILDERS



How to Make Your Home More Livable

Lewis County Chapter Meetings

Please join us for our next monthly OMB Lewis County Chapter meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at the Moose Lodge. For more information contact Jenn at membership@omb.org or visit omb.org/chapters/lewis-county. Non-members welcome.

Welcome to OMB's newest Lewis County Member

Aspen Plumbing-Toledo

349 Spencer Rd.
Toledo, WA 98591
(360) 907-9744



The pandemic has had a resounding effect on the way people live — not only in how they interact with those around them, but potentially in how they view their homes as well. More time at home may be changing the way individuals think about tangible elements such as increasing their capacity to work from home, as well as the not-so-tangible elements, like indoor air quality, noise reduction and overall home performance.

High-performance homes can provide increased comfort, improved air quality, reduced noise, and lower energy and water bills, which can benefit

the health, well-being and finances of you and your family. Your current home may not provide these elements, but investing in remodeling or a new home could ensure they're incorporated going forward. Asking the right questions will help ensure you're getting the types of features you're looking for in a remodel or your next new home.

For example, you may notice now that it seems like the AC or heater is running all the time or fluctuates in temperature as you move from room to room throughout the day. Or maybe you're using more energy and water during the daytime, so

you're increasingly concerned about how this will affect your utility bills. Raising these types of concerns with a home builder or remodeler can help them identify the right high-performance solutions for your current or future home.

Solutions may include:

- Products and building materials to increase energy efficiency, such as:
- Smart thermostats to help regulate temperature;
- High R-value insulation in floors, walls and ceilings to retain heat within home;
- Weatherstripping around

windows and doors to avoid air leakage, which can overwork air conditioning units;

- WaterSense-labeled fixtures to reduce water usage; and
- Appropriately sized heating ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment to comfortably and efficiently heat and cool your home.
- Products and building materials to improve ventilation and air quality, such as:
- Smart appliances to improve efficiency;
- HVAC systems with sensors and automation to help regulate circulation; and

- Sustainable building materials that use fewer chemicals and irritants.

For more information, including specific questions to ask your home builder, visit homeperformancecounts.info. Home Performance Counts is a joint initiative between the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) to help homeowners better understand the rapidly growing high-performance home marketplace.

To find a Lewis County professional who can help you, visit omb.org today.

Lewis County Government Affairs Update:

Collaboration and Growth in Lewis County

Just South of Chehalis, in the Urban Growth Area, the county is growing. Such growth presents many challenges around land use, conservation, infrastructure, and more. That is why county staff has organized the "South Chehalis/UGA Design Project," a workgroup made up of collaborators across the county and different industries. The goals of the group include balancing family-wage jobs, schools, traffic, parking, and walkable amenities, and ensuring a positive and attractive path for future growth. Lewis

County builders make up some of the stakeholders in the group and look forward to collaborating throughout the process with county staff and officials and bringing affordable housing to the area for all economic segments of the community.

You can still view the official press release at: <https://lewiscountywa.gov/news-room/press-releases/collaboration-in-the-face-of-rapid-growth/>

Sign-Up for Flood Warnings
It's that time of year when the rain

seems to never stop. Atmospheric rivers and a Pineapple Express are sure to bring plenty of precipitation to the area. This is especially true in the Chehalis River Basin. Be sure to sign up for alerts through the Chehalis River Basin Flood Warning System at: <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/f5d1e90dc3fc4222973249966a0d883f>

Event Center and Sports Complex in Centralia

If you've been around Borst Park lately, you'd be hard-pressed to miss the progress. There's a football field, tennis courts, and in the not-so-distant future

construction will begin on the event center. The project could prove to be a positive attraction for all the expected growth and should bring opportunities for economic growth to the area. And economic growth comes with the need for more housing. So, keep an eye on The City of Centralia Newsletter, which can be found at: <https://www.cityofcentralia.com/Archive.aspx?AMID=43>

For more information, please contact OMB Government Affairs Director, Jessie Simmons, at ga@omb.org or (360)754-0912 (ext.102).

Big Home & Remodel Show

Vendor Registration Coming Soon!

The OMB Big Home and Remodel Show is scheduled for April 20-21, 2024, at Saint Martin University's Marcus Pavilion

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

Would you like to have an exhibit in the show? We'd love to have you! Our event typically sees an average of 2,000 customers over the course of the weekend. It's a great opportunity for our local businesses to showcase themselves and to connect with potential customers. Registration for returning vendors will open in January 2024, and for new vendors at the start of February. Stay tuned for more details and a registration link! OMB members get a 20% booth discount, but you do not need to be a member to participate.

*** If you would like to be a vendor or a sponsor for this event, contact Jenn at membership@omb.org or 360.754.0912. ***

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