

LEWIS COUNTY CHAPTER OF OLYMPIA MASTER BUILDERS



5 Ways to Make Your Home Cozy This Winter

The winter months can be a great time to tackle home improvement projects. As the weather turns cooler, you may look for ways to make your home cozier and more inviting. And with the holidays approaching, now is the time to make any improvements so gatherings at your home can be safe and comfortable for your guests.

Planning is vital to keeping your home in shape this winter. For example, if you have a significant project in mind, such as adding insulation or upgrading your heating system, you'll need time to get several quotes from professional contractors. Olympia Master Builders' Hire-A-Pro Directory has a list of professionals with

a wealth of experience and professional integrity. Visit omb.org today.

If you're ready to make your home comfortable this winter, consider the following home improvements.

Add Insulation

Insulation helps to keep your home warm in the winter and cool in the summer. If your home is not well-insulated, you're likely wasting money on your energy bills. Adding insulation to your attic, walls, and floors is a relatively inexpensive way to improve your home's energy efficiency.

Seal Air Leaks

Air leaks can also contribute to high energy bills. Take some time to inspect your home for air leaks around windows, doors, and electrical outlets. You can seal air leaks with caulk, weatherstripping, or foam sealant.

Upgrade Your Heating System

If your heating system is old and inefficient, it's time to consider upgrading. There are many energy-efficient heating systems available on the market today. Upgrading your heating

system can save you money on your energy bills and make your home more comfortable in the winter.

Install A Fireplace

A fireplace can be a great way to add warmth and ambiance to your home in the winter. If you don't have a fireplace, consider installing one. Many types of fireplaces are available, so you can choose one that fits your needs and budget.

Update Your Lighting

Soft, warm lighting can create a cozy and inviting

atmosphere in your home. If your current lighting is outdated or harsh, consider updating it. There are many different types of lamps and light fixtures available, so you can choose ones that match your décor and create the desired ambiance.

When working on home improvement projects, it's important to be safe by using the tools as instructed and wearing safety gear. And if you're not comfortable doing the work yourself, hire a qualified contractor.

For more information and tips for your home this winter, contact omb.org.

Lewis County Government Affairs Update:

Property Taxes –

Homeowners, check your mailbox. The Assessor's Office has mailed out property revaluation notices for 2024. Property owners have several options and, more specifically, can appeal if they disagree with the evaluation. You can find the county press release at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/news-room/press-releases/lewis-county-assessor-sends-property-owners-new-revaluation-information/>

For questions and concerns, please contact the assessor's office at (360)740-1392 or

visit the office at 351 North St. in Chehalis.

Lewis County Comp Plan –

There's still time to provide input on the periodic update to the comprehensive plan. The plan is required to be updated every 10 years, via guidance from the Growth Management Act. The plan covers many policies that impact housing affordability and the ability to increase housing supply. Amid the current housing crisis, it is important for the public to be involved in solutions. All things

Lewis County Comp Plan can be found at:

<https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/community-development/rezones/comprehensive-plan-and-development-regulation-amendments/comprehensive-plan-periodic-update/>

City of Chehalis 2024 Budget –

The city has released their preliminary budget proposal and will be conducting public hearings where citizens may provide input. In-person hearings will be held throughout

November at City Hall. Budgets cover everything from facilities improvements to staffing issues and beyond. You can find information on the budget and on public hearings at <https://www.ci.chehalis.wa.us/finance/2024-preliminary-budget-available-here>

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

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

Mark Your Calendars!

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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