



# CLUB NEWS

THE VOICE OF HOMESERVICE CLUB™

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### FALL HOMEWORK



- ✓ Get a head start on all those chores by taking a close look at your home's foundation, roof and gutters this month. Minor maintenance jobs done now can save you money on expensive repairs down the road.
- ✓ Gutters are crucial to the good health of your roofing system. Have them thoroughly cleaned after the last leaves have fallen, and repair any splits or broken hangers. Keeping them in good repair will prevent ice damming and roof damage in the winter.
- ✓ Check that gutters are leak-free and draining properly (and away from your home's foundation) by running a garden hose in the gutter and watching the water flow.
- ✓ Check the weatherstripping around windows and doors and repair or replace.
- ✓ Keeping on top of weeds has been tough for homeowners during a hot and rainy summer. But it's worth the effort to catch those weeds before they go to seed and multiply next year! Once the weeds have been eliminated, treat your lawn to a healthy dose of fertilizer as recommended by your local garden centre.

## KEEPING in the HEAT part of fall MAINTENANCE

Your furnace plays by Murphy's Law – if it's going to quit, it will do so on the coldest night of the year. But with a little attention now, your heating system will reward you with reliable service this winter.

Here are a few tips that will help keep your home snug and comfortable:

- Have your heating system professionally serviced and cleaned.
- Mark your calendar with a reminder to clean and/or change the furnace filter every month.
- Install a programmable thermostat, which can be programmed to lower the temperature when you are at work or sleeping, and save up to 20 per cent on your energy bill this winter.
- Investigate the Club's Heating Warranty Plan, which covers repairs to your gas furnace for one low price.
- If you heat with oil, the Club's Home Heating Plan can save you three cents a litre and new subscribers receive a furnace maintenance plan at special savings.
- Upgrade to a more energy-efficient furnace. The energy savings can be substantial and government grants are available.
- Make sure caulking and weatherstripping around doors and windows is in good repair.



### Going with the (low) FLOW

Don't flush your hard-earned money down the drain when you can save up to 125 litres of water every day by installing an Ultra Low Flush (ULF) toilet. A ULF uses six litres of water a flush, compared to the 25 litres used by older models.

The City of Toronto will even pay you to replace your older model with a ULF. Check out the website at <http://www.toronto.ca/watereff/flush/index.htm>.

- Some things to consider include:
- Bowl surface** - the larger the bowl surface the easier it is to keep clean.
  - Tank** - Look for a lined tank that won't sweat.
  - Footprint** - The space the pedestal takes up on the floor should be similar to the existing toilet to avoid having to retile.
  - Trap** - the larger the trap, the less likely it is to become clogged.

### AUTUMN GARDEN GUIDE

- Keep grass longer this month to avoid burning and encourage hardy root growth - three inches is a good height.
- Make notes about your annuals and perennials for next year's garden. Better still, take a photo!
- Plant your last crops of vegetables such as lettuce, for harvesting before the first frost.
- Mark the locations of perennials as they go dormant, so you'll know what that sprout is next year.



# CLUB NEWS

## Shopping for a new home?



Call The Club first! Our referral service (All-Purpose Realty Inc.) will introduce you to a realtor from a well-known national, regional or local real estate company in the neighbourhood where you want to buy or sell.

**Homeservice Club™ members receive a \$30 rebate for each \$10,000 increment in real estate bought or sold.**

**CALL (416) 925-1111**

**Make your move rewarding!**

## SHOPPING FOR A NEW CAR? Buy through the Club!

Call Homeservice Club and SAVE on the car of your choice. Our Club-authorized brokers work for YOU, not a dealer, and will find the vehicle you're looking for... at the right price!

◆NEW ◆LEASED ◆TRADE-INS

**CALL US TODAY: (416) 925-1111**



## We're your Homeservice Club™ travel experts

Homeservice Club™ members are invited to a special auto tour, September 2006. Join **JIM KENZIE**, Toronto Star "Wheels" journalist, for a luxury "Best of Britain" tour featuring the best cars, the best driving, the best hotels and the best vintage motorsport event in the UK, the "Goodwood Revival".



For information please e-mail: [groups@homeserviceclub.com](mailto:groups@homeserviceclub.com)

**For information call 416-925-1111**

## RETRACTABLE AWNINGS

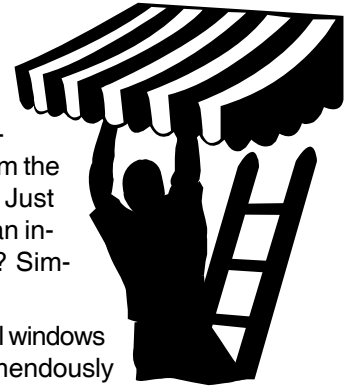
### A made in the SHADE solution

Now you can adapt your patio to suit the weather, with the push of a button. Too sunny? Just roll out the retractable awning! Need shelter from the rain for your dinner guests? Just push a button and you have an instant roof. Want a new look? Simply select a new fabric!

Domed awnings over individual windows add charm and can save tremendously on cooling costs in the summer. Awnings can be used to provide shade over outdoor hot tubs, pocket patios or pools as well as decks and patios attached to the house. They are also ideal for balconies.

Here are some things to keep in mind when considering the versatility of retractable awnings:

- Awnings are available in standard sizes, but you can have them custom-made to suit your needs.
- Look for awnings made out of durable materials that will handle the weather and be resistant to fading caused by the sun's ultra-violet rays.
- Material can be waterproof or water-resistant, depending on your preference.
- Mounting gear and support structures can be made from wood, vinyl or aluminum.
- Most awnings come with a manual retraction arm. Remote-controlled retraction is available at additional cost.



## EXTERIOR PAINTING TIPS

- Keep it neutral. Lighter exterior colours won't show the dirt.
- Bright colours will fade faster than neutral colours.
- Light stains usually wear better and longer than dark stains.



## 3 NUMBERS to keep at your fingertips...

- **911** for fire and medical emergencies
- Your Homeservice Club™ **Membership #**
- **416-925-1111** for home repair emergencies and home renovations

**HOMESERVICE CLUB™**



- 24-hour EMERGENCY service
- Up to 3 FREE estimates
- Guaranteed Repairs/Renovations
- Bonded, licensed & insured tradespeople

**416-925-1111**

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Smart Homeowner  
123 Cherry Blossom Lane  
Toronto, ON M9C 1P2

MEMBERSHIP #12345678 [www.homeserviceclub.com](http://www.homeserviceclub.com)

*Roofing to waterproofing - and everything in between*

**KEEP YOUR PERSONALIZED MAGNET near the phone for handy reference**

*If you didn't receive your magnet in the mail, call 416-925-1111.*



# CLUB NEWS

## CLUB COUPONS

### ROOF WARRANTY

Save \$20 off the Club's three-year ROOF WARRANTY PLAN (reg. \$129.95), or \$10 off the two-year plan (reg. \$99.95) on orders placed and accepted between Sept. 15 and Dec. 31, 2005.

**\$20 OFF**

Expires Dec. 31/05

### GAS FURNACE\*

Save \$100 off the supply/installation of a gas furnace on orders placed and accepted between September 15 and December 31, 2005.

**\$100 OFF**

Expires Dec. 31/05

### EAVES CLEANING

Save \$10 off any eavestrough cleaning order over \$100 (excl. taxes) placed and accepted between September 15 and December 31, 2005.

**\$10 OFF**

Expires Dec. 31/05

### DRAFTPROOFING

Save \$20 off any draftproofing job over \$100 (excl. taxes) on orders placed and accepted between September 15 and December 31, 2005.

**\$20 OFF**

Expires Dec. 31/05

### WINDOWS/DOORS

Save \$150 off the supply/installation of replacement windows and doors on orders over \$2,000 (excl. taxes) placed and accepted between September 15 and December 31, 2005.

**\$150 OFF**

Expires Dec. 31/05

### HOME HEATING OIL

Save on home heating oil, receive 100 litres of FREE oil (new accounts only, excluding current Petro Partner customers) and more when you switch to the Club's Home Heating Plan.

**Save**

### SECURITY SYSTEMS

Receive two month's FREE monitoring on all new alarm system installation orders placed and accepted between September 15 and December 31, 2005.

**2 MONTHS FREE MONITORING**

Expires Dec. 31/05

## HOME IMPROVEMENTS

### RENO industry is BOOMING

Some homeowners who want to get in on the renovation boom sweeping Ontario are finding they have to get in line for service.

Renovation spending in Canada is expected to rise more than 10 per cent this year, and 7 per cent again next year, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation. The strong growth, coupled with record levels of sales of existing homes, a strong job market and low borrowing costs are the catalysts for strong renovation spending which will reach \$40.7 billion in 2005.

Rick Felton, president of Homeservice Club, predicts the current pace will slow in the later fall months, making it the ideal time to book home improvement projects. "Spring used to be the traditional season for major home renovations - now it is a year-round business," Felton said.

More and more homeowners are booking their renovations during the winter months to take advantage of reduced wait times and lower off-season prices, he added.

*Call today for up to 3 FREE estimates*

## HARDWOOD FLOORS Q & A

### 1. Can a factory-finished hardwood floor be refinished?

Probably, but extra care is required. First, keep in mind that refinishing typically voids the warranty for a factory-finished floor - which can range from five to 25 years. Because an additive like aluminum oxide makes a urethane finish more wear-resistant, the floor will require more extensive sanding to prepare it for a new coating. For best results, check with an experienced contractor.

### 2. How many times can a hardwood floor be refinished?

It depends on the type of flooring and the amount of sanding required for each refinishing. A three-quarter-inch thick solid hardwood floor typically lasts more than a lifetime. Such a floor probably could be refinished seven to 11 times. That compares to about four times for a half-inch thick solid hardwood floor.

*Hardwood Flooring Council*

**Call today & save! 416-925-1111**

**SAVE**  
**3 cents a litre**  
 on  
**home heating oil**  
**416-925-1111**

# CLUB NEWS

## A NEW LOOK for your home!



**Call the Club for up to 3 free estimates**  
**(416) 925-1111**



## WINDOWS: Retrofit and save

Canadians seeking the most energy-efficient windows, doors and skylights for their homes will have an added information tool with the Energy Star rating system.

Energy Star-rated windows and doors will save up to 40 per cent on energy costs over conventional models, according to Homeservice Club window expert, Dave Roseolen. His company is one of less than 40 across the country that are Energy Star certified. "We are an Energy Star company, meaning that all our installers have been certified by Window Wise and we supply Energy Star products," he explained.

Roseolen said choosing windows can be a complicated process, with different types of Low-e coatings and various spacer materials affecting efficiency. The Energy Star system helps consumers make the right energy-efficient choice, he added, rating products suitable for each of Canada's four climate zones. Although southern Ontario is all Zone B, the HDD factor (Heating Degree Days) varies between cities. However, a high-humidity area such as a kitchen or bathroom could benefit from the installation of a Zone D window.

Consumers can expect to pay more for Energy Star rated windows and doors, but the cost is returned in energy savings. The payback period for Energy Star products compared to standard windows and doors is about 10 years.

Replacement windows should be thermal at a minimum, but rising energy costs justify triple glazing more often. "Depending on your needs, you can also have your windows built to include features such as soundproofing, burglary-resistant and self-cleaning options," he said.

When you consider that up to 25 per cent of a home's heat loss goes out the window (or door, or skylight), looking for the Energy Star symbol makes economic sense, Roseolen added.

For information on the Energy Star rating system, visit Natural Resources Canada website at [www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/energystar](http://www.oee.nrcan.gc.ca/energystar).

**CALL THE CLUB & SAVE \$**  
**on energy-saving replacement windows**

## Homeservice Protection Plans give you peace of mind!

*"This is the most requested warranty plan we've ever offered - and the price is the lowest you'll find anywhere!"*

*Richard Felton, President  
Homeservice Club*

- Appliance Warranty
- Furnace Warranty
- Roof Warranty
- Combination Warranties

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WARRANTY  
PLAN  
from just  
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**Fire? Water damage? Call the Club's damage restoration experts!**