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# Weather Sealco has seen its products evolve over 85 years

**CHRISTOPHER GILLETT**

cgillett@starbeacon.com

ASHTABULA — Weather Sealco President John Hogan said he is expecting an increase in orders for new doors, windows and other amenities as the spring arrives.

“It takes people getting outside a little bit to realize that their doors are failing, their windows are failing or their siding is starting to chip and peel,” Hogan said.

The company’s phone has already been busy with callers, especially during brief periods when it warms up, he said.

“What I recommend all people do is to definitely see the product,” Hogan said. “That’s why we offer a showroom here with all the products on display, so they can come and see, operate the windows, look at the different door styles.”

Homeowners should beware of potential gimmicks before going through with a project or installation, he said.

“I always tell everybody to get a complete estimate on the total job,” Hogan said.

Weather Sealco provides free in-home consultations, he said.

“I wouldn’t say that [homeowners] typically make mistakes, but I’d say what one thing is sometimes, people fall for the gimmicks,” Hogan said.

During the winter, people want windows and doors that will seal their homes and keep them warm, he said.



Christopher Gillett | Star Beacon

**Weather Sealco President John Hogan stands with several doors his business offers to customers.**

The company does not manufacture its products, instead relying on vendors, Hogan said.

“If you talked about our product list, it’s replacement windows and new construction windows, entry doors, they come in fiberglass or steel,” he said. “We have patio doors, patio sliding doors. We have French doors. We have decking and railing.”

The storefront, at 4707 State Road, displays many of the products the company sells in a specially-designed sunroom and other areas.

“Primarily, we install

what we sell, but we also provide our products to contractors and do-it-yourselfers,” he said.

Weather Sealco is a third-generation family-owned business, celebrating its 85th anniversary. Hogan said it was founded by his grandfather, Arthur Hogan, before being passed down to his father, Thomas Hogan, and then him.

“My son, the fourth generation, has started working for us as well,” John Hogan said. “We’re proud to have [him]. His name is Tristan Hogan.”

John Hogan said he is

thankful for the long-time support of many customers, but it is hard to put into words exactly how he feels.

“The bottom is line is that we’ve been very fortunate to have the customers we have in Ashtabula County and the surrounding area,” he said. “People have come to trust the name. They know where we’re at. They know where to find us if there’s service-related issues.”

The business started with wood storm windows, Hogan said.

“Our storm windows were built out of redwood, and my grandfather would

go door to door and sell redwood storm windows,” he said. “Well, that evolved into aluminum storm windows. Once the aluminum took over, it was less maintenance.”

Vinyl replacement windows eventually replaced storm windows, he said.

Hogan said he began working for his father in 1998, after getting out of the Army and studying at Kent State University Ashtabula.

“The industry continues to evolve with better and better products,” he said. “For years, we sold steel doors. Well, steel doors

could rust. Now, we’re into fiberglass doors, which can’t rust or dent.”

Other changes have come to Weather Sealco’s products in the almost 30 years Hogan has been with the company.

“For years, we used double-pane glass, and it was very well [and] efficient, but now we have triple-pane glass, which adds a third layer of glass, which adds even more insulated value to the window,” he said.

Changes to doors, windows and other goods the company sells are about energy efficiency, Hogan said.

“It’s our job to keep up with those new products and offer them to our customers,” he said.

Once orders for new windows and doors are made, Weather Sealco starts the installation within eight weeks, Hogan said.

Lead times have grown for many products since the COVID-19 pandemic, he said.

“It’s always better to start talking about it now, because products do take normally three to four weeks to order,” Hogan said.

Glass manufacturers may take two to three weeks to turn out an order, when it used to be around a week, he said.

Hogan said his business can be reached through its Facebook page or by calling 440-992-9181.

The company’s hours are 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday.

# Company meets variety of customer water needs

**BY WARREN DILLAWAY**  
warren@starbeacon.com

JEFFERSON — For 15 years, a husband and wife team has been helping meet the varied water needs of Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania.

Richard and Lydia Machczynski own and operate Crystal Clear Water on Route 46, just north of the Route 307 intersection.

“We are a water treatment, pool and spa company,” Richard Machczynski said. He said the varied needs of customers

make it a unique business with no day the same as another.

The showroom includes three separate areas that focus on the different aspects of the business.

The water treatment part of the business includes customers with municipal water, and those with wells, ponds and cisterns. Machczynski said the business is licensed through the Ohio Department of Health, as well as the Environmental Protection Agency.

The operators receive phone calls from people

dealing with water that doesn’t taste good or has a chlorine smell, among other concerns.

Machczynski said most municipal water facilities do a good job, but the amount of chlorine can be excessive.

“That is a year-long business. People drink water when it is snowing and when it is hot and when it is everything in between,” he said.

Each day is different, and often involve trips to individual homes, Machczynski said.

Whatever the water issue, the first challenge is

finding the problem.

“We first of all test the water,” Machczynski said.

There may be one solution for customers living in an area serviced by municipal water, and another for those in rural areas.

“Water is so necessary to make sure our bodies are functioning properly,” Machczynski said.

The company seeks to find the best solution both financially and environmentally, he said.

He said city water must be treated at the main water entry to the home.

Machczynski said there are a variety of treatment options from chemicals, to special processes and each situation is unique.

Lydia Machczynski said rural water needs are prob-



Warren Dillaway | Star Beacon

**Rich and Lydia Machczynski** are the owners of Crystal Clear Water in Jefferson.

ably 80% of the treatment business. She said the company conducted 1,528 water tests for customers seeking better water options, and at least another 200 for pools.

Two recent calls for water treatment needs initially sounded similar, but had two different solutions. In one, a system replacement was needed, for another the system was still operational.

Richard Machczynski said he worked in the manufacturing industry for 30 years and decided he wanted to be involved more directly in helping people.

“I needed to be in a needs-based business,” he said.

Even with pools, the problem is different in each situation, he said.

Machczynski urged people to try and stay ahead of problems.

“Don’t call the day before a big party,” he said.

The business services customers across the border in Western Pennsylvania, throughout Ashtabula, Northern Trumbull, Eastern Geauga and all of Lake counties.

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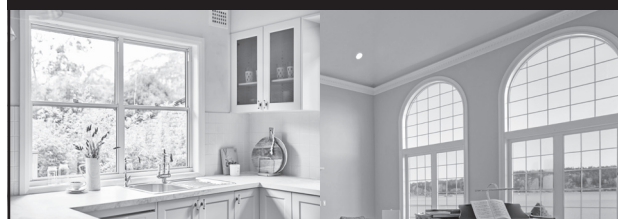
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# Local painters reflect on industry

**CHRISTOPHER GILLET**  
cgillett@starbeacon.com

Local painting professionals had a lot to say when asked to reflect on their industry, how business was going and for their advice to people pursuing their own projects.

J&W Paint Company co-owner Alan Jepson said the materials people typically paint on have evolved over the years.

"Everything used to be wood," he said.

Since then, it has shifted to vinyl surfaces, Jepson said.

"It doesn't need to be recoated as often," he said.

The business grew during the COVID-19 pandemic, when everyone was stuck at home, Jepson said.

"When COVID first

hit, it was really good for business because people were doing projects," he said

Jepson said the paint industry is cyclical, because companies guide demand by naming a color of the year.

He said the winter drives people to focus on more interior painting projects.

"Exterior painting is all due to the weather," Jepson said.

He said people who live along Lake Erie have to wait longer for temperatures to warm up before doing exterior painting.

Surface preparation is the most important thing people should consider when doing their own painting projects, he said.

They should be sure to clean mildew from surfaces, otherwise it will continue to grow under

the paint, Jepson said.

He said deciding whether or not to apply primer before paint is another thing to consider.

"Surface prep is key no matter what you're doing," Jepson said.

Faith Grippe-Jamison, co-owner of Jamison Painting and Renovations, said people should make sure to have adequate brushes, roller heads, paint and tape before starting a project.

She said people can

research paint they are interested in through pamphlets from companies like Sherwin-Williams.

"I never look down on people who want to paint themselves," Grippe-Jamison said.

She and her husband, Adam Jamison, are new to the local painting industry, having started their business around two years ago.

As more people have become aware of the business, they started getting

calls, Grippe-Jamison said.

"Getting on Google has helped a lot," she said.

It is typically slower for

them from Thanksgiving to the beginning of January, she said.

See **PAINTERS** on 7

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# Home improvement businesses waiting for warmer weather

BY WARREN DILLAWAY

warren@starbeacon.com

GENEVA — Warmer weather is expected to kick home improvement projects into full gear, Raymond Builders Supply Inc. owner Kim Wright said.

“We are pretty weather dependent,” she said.

“Contractors are ready to go as soon as the weather breaks.”

The excessively cold weather and snow cover makes it difficult to get projects rolling, but a lot of planning is already underway.

Wright said home owners looking to get going on

projects are often motivated by social media and visit the business seeking assistance to make their dreams come true.

She said Youtube videos and postings on Pinterest are really motivating for people sitting around in the cold weather, thinking about a special summer

cookout in the back yard. “I feel we can help them along the way,” Wright said.

If the project ends up being a bit too challenging for the homeowner, there is help right around the corner.

“We have a database of contractors,” she said. The company can also provide rental equipment for those who might need a one-time tool to make their project a reality.

The building supply business has been a cornerstone of the construction activity in Northeast Ohio for more than 80



Warren Dillaway | Star Beacon

New displays are created at Raymond Builders Supply as the home improvement season gets ready to roll.

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**WEATHER**

CONTINUED FROM 6

years, Wright said.

“As soon as the snow goes away, we are ready,” she said.

“We are excited about this upcoming season,” Wright said.

She said people are excited about getting their outdoor living areas ready to go after a long winter stuck inside.

Especially popular are a variety of outdoor additions that can improve quality of life, including fire pits and fire places.

“We see a lot of activi-

ty up towards the lake,” Wright said.

The building supply company works with home owners, contractors and architects throughout Northeast Ohio.

A wide variety of possibilities occur as small and large building projects provide options for building supply companies.

“We have a lot of [products] down at the lodge,” Wright said.

She said she hopes there will be some business from the new home development in Geneva-on-the-Lake.

Construction on the gated community is scheduled for later this year, possibly by summer. Wright said some of the larger projects include the purchase of pavers.

The luxury RV park in Geneva-on-the-Lake is also a growing entity that needs supplies as well.

“We get a lot of action with the RV park,” Wright said.

“It’s pretty exciting for Geneva,” Wright said of the many projects that are constructing a variety of buildings and improvement projects in the area.

**PAINTERS**

CONTINUED FROM 5

“Right at the beginning [of the year], I started getting calls again,” Grippe-Jamison said.

Gray, black and beige are popular colors right now, she said.

J&C Painting owner Jerry Muto said rising construction costs have had some indirect effects on his business, but overall it has not been too bad.

“Everything is a little slow this year and last year, because of the economy,” he said.

Rising costs do have some direct effects on the company.

“The price of paint keeps going up,” he said.

Muto expects the economy to get better for him.

Light trims are popular with his customers, Muto said.

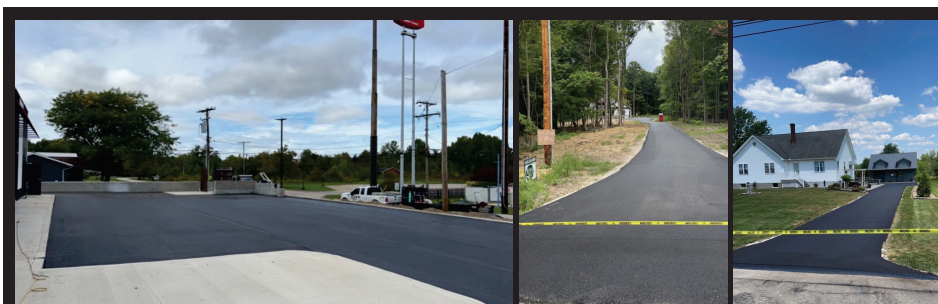
“Dark blue is coming back,” he said.

With the weather starting to warm up, Muto expects an increase in customers.

During the summer, his business typically works on between 25 and 30 houses.

J&C Painting normally works on residential properties, Muto said.

The state outlawed oil-based paint and primers few years ago, and the business has since shifted to using latex-based prod-



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# Passing the torch: How to transition your home from heating to cooling

**MICHAEL BIVONA**

HomeServe USA

As winter fades and spring's warmer days arrive, homeowners face

the annual ritual of transitioning their HVAC system from heating to cooling. It

isn't just about comfort. It's also about protecting your equipment, optimizing effi-

ciency and managing tricky mid-season temperature swings that can leave you toggling between heat and air conditioning.

Here are some essential maintenance tasks, strategies for handling thermostat dilemmas and smart ways to stay comfortable while minimizing strain on your system.

## Why Seasonal HVAC Maintenance Matters

Annual maintenance is one of the most effective ways to prepare your HVAC system for seasonal change. According to Energy Star, scheduling a professional spring check-up for your cooling equipment can prevent problems before they occur and ensure efficient operation throughout the cooling season. These pre-season check-ups typically include thermostat inspection, electrical checks, lubrication of moving parts and condensate drain line inspections — all crucial whether your system has been running hard all winter or not.

Regular maintenance not only improves comfort, but also extends your system's life and reduces energy bills by ensuring peak performance. Energy Star equates a yearly tune-up for both heating and cooling systems to a car's annual service — it keeps things running smoothly while shrinking the chances of something catastrophic happening in the long term.

## Air filters and clean components

Homeowners should

check and replace filters — or clean reusable ones — monthly during heavy-use periods, and at a minimum every three months. Dirty filters restrict airflow, force systems to work harder, and can significantly reduce both heating and cooling efficiency.

## The Spring Thermostat Tug-of-War: Heat Vs. Cool

One of the most common frustrations of spring is what many homeowners experience as thermostat whiplash — switching between heat and cooling over the course of just a few days as outdoor temperatures fluctuate wildly.

## Understanding the strain

While not typically considered damaging, per se, frequent manual mode changes can reduce efficiency and increase wear on HVAC components if done carelessly. For example, running your system at very different setpoints spreads energy use unevenly and prevents optimal performance. The U.S. Department of Energy recommends setting reasonable temperatures rather than extreme setbacks; large gaps between indoor and outdoor temperatures increase system workload.

Additionally, DOE guidance on programmable thermostats explains that routinely adjusting thermostat settings — whether manually or via automated schedules — can save energy if done thoughtfully, but

See **TRANSITION** on 10

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## Gas vs. electric water heater: Which is right for your home?

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As a homeowner, you have many important decisions to make about your property. Some choices affect how much you spend on running your home, while others affect how easy and enjoyable it is to live in it. One decision that falls into both of these categories is which type of water heater to get. From purchase and maintenance costs to how well it meets your hot water needs, it's important to invest in the right water heater for your home. Two popular types are gas and electric water heaters.

### What Is a Gas Water Heater?

A gas water heater uses a gas burner to heat water, usually powered by either natural gas or propane. While propane is more expensive, it does have better heating qualities than natural gas and electricity.

Gas water heaters have higher heating capabilities than electric water heaters and can produce more hot water. Gas water heaters with a tank are limited by how much water they can store, while tankless gas water heaters can produce hot water as and when it's needed. These properties make gas water heaters a great choice for large families that use a lot of hot water.

If water is needed at different points throughout the day, a tankless heater could be best.

### What Is an Electric Water Heater?

Electric water heaters use a coil in a furnace or heat

pump to heat water. They can also provide cooling through an air system, which gives you more control over your home's climate than a gas water heater can offer.

Like gas water heaters, electric water heaters can also have a tankless design. Since electricity is readily available in most homes, electric water heater installation is usually faster and less expensive than a gas water heater installation. As such, electric water heaters are often better-suited to smaller households or those that want stronger climate control within their home.

### Which Provides Better Value for Money?

When determining whether a gas or electric water heater is a more practical investment for your household, you'll need to consider several financial factors.

### Installation and purchase

A 40-gallon electric water heater typically costs around \$300 for a lower-end model and up to \$700 for a premium model. With installation costs ranging from \$700 to \$1,000, this puts the average electric water heater acquisition cost at \$1,000 to \$1,700. Gas water heaters cost more to purchase and install. Forty-gallon gas water heaters usually cost \$400 to \$800 up front, which isn't much more than their electric counterparts. However, the installation costs are significantly higher at around \$1,400-\$2,800.

### Maintenance

The maintenance

requirements for gas and electric water heaters can fluctuate massively depending on the model, problem, and age of the system. Replacing a thermostat could cost \$150-\$200, while a gas control valve replacement could cost up to \$500.

Gas water heaters are more dangerous to work with and require a certified plumber, which is why these repairs are usually more expensive. The average cost for these repairs is \$120-\$500, while electric water heater repairs average at \$150-\$300. Older units often cost more to repair, since problems are more likely to be extensive. If your water heater is near the end of its lifespan, it may be more cost-effective to replace the unit than repair it.

### Usage

The Department of Energy estimates that your water heater accounts for around 18% of your home's energy usage, which is why it's important to consider your unit's utility costs.

Comparing gas and electric water heater monthly costs is challenging, since energy rates vary by location and water heaters operate at different efficiency levels. This makes it difficult to provide an accurate usage cost.

However, many estimates put the average monthly energy cost of an electric water heater at \$35. On the other hand, gas water heaters are estimated to cost around \$20 per month.

Regardless of what type

it is, your water heater should have an EnergyGuide label attached. This label provides an estimated yearly energy cost, making it easier to gauge your water heater's operational expenses.

### Lifespan

Water heaters are an investment, which is why they're designed to perform well for as long as possible. Electric water heaters generally have longer lifespans than gas water heaters, lasting around 10-15 years and sometimes longer. Gas water heaters often last 8-12 years. It's also worth noting that tankless models tend to last longer than traditional units.

Of course, these estimates are dependent on the water heater receiving the necessary maintenance.

### Fuel source

Electric and gas each have their pros and cons as a fuel source.

Gas has better heating qualities, making it more capable of heating your home. This also leads to reduced fuel usage. Electric, however, is usually much more accessible. This means installation is easier and less infrastructure is required, since most houses already have access to electricity.

### Energy efficiency

Despite costing more to run, electric water heaters are usually more energy-efficient than gas water heaters. Electric water heaters can use almost all of their energy to heat water, while gas water heaters expend energy venting the used gas.

See **WATER** on 10

## How to establish a home renovation budget

### Get three quotes

Homeowners know that the next home renovation project is always right around the corner. And that means finding ways to finance such undertakings.

When planning for renovations, the average homeowner underestimates their project cost by approximately 22 percent, according to the 2026 Remodeling Impact Report. Establishing a pre-project budget can help avoid such surprises.

### Don't over-improve

A common mistake homeowners make is over-improving a home beyond the neighborhood value. A good rule of thumb is to employ the average percentage-of-home-value approach in an effort to stay within range of what's acceptable. Budget a kitchen renovation or finished basement at 10-15 percent of the home value. A master bedroom will come in at 5-10% of home value, while a small bedroom or office falls between 1 and 3 percent of home value. These benchmarks are supported by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry and the National Association of Realtors. Historically, a functional, modern kitchen is the top driver of home value, says Remodeling Magazine.

### Learn the breakdown

Homeowners should understand that materials, fixtures, appliances, and flooring, otherwise known as "hard costs," will eat up 50 to 60 percent of their renovation budgets. Labor, permits and design fees will comprise the next largest chunk, typically coming in between 25 and 35 percent. Homeowners also should factor about 15 to 20 percent of a budget to a safety net to cover unforeseen expenses, like mold remediation or structural issues.

It's important for homeowners to get several estimates before establishing a budget. Experts advise working with contractors that offer fixed-price contracts rather than those that list time and materials; otherwise, there may be a mid-project price hike that comes out of the blue. A person also can ask contractors for a line-item bid so it's possible to see where money can be trimmed through different material choices. With a list of desired items in hand, and acceptable substitutions if the cost comes in too high, homeowners can create a budget that works.

### Saving versus splurging

It's important for homeowners to be realistic about their renovations. They can splurge on items that are seen or touched every day, like door handles, cabinet pulls and faucets. Other items, like lighting fixtures or backsplashes, can be replaced down the road. It may be better to direct funds to structural elements or those "invisible renovations" like upgrading insulation or smart systems that save on energy costs and improve efficiency.

### Keep a 20 percent cushion

Homeowners can determine the affordability if a proposed project ends up costing 20 percent more or takes a few months longer. If the answer is no, homeowners should scale back the project budget until they have that financial safety net. Alliant Credit Union says experts strongly recommend adding a 20 percent contingency cushion to a remodeling budget. A home remodeling project is a big commitment of time and money. Budgeting correctly ensures that there are few, if any, surprises along the way.

# Repurpose rooms and breathe new life into a home

Homeowners do not need to get hung up on room labels as they explore ways to reinvent their spaces. Just because a floor plan labels a space as a formal dining room doesn't mean the area has to remain that way.

Repurposing rooms in a home comes down to aligning the space a person has with their lifestyle needs. Here are a few ways to rethink interior spaces and make a switch to improve utility.

- Identify unused or under-used rooms. Take note of spaces that are cleaned but rarely used. For many people, this is a dining room or a guest suite. Either of these rooms can be transformed into something new.

- Invest in multipurpose furniture. Even people short on space can transform their homes. Replacing a traditional bed with a murphy bed or a daybed can make a room more suitable for a home office or yoga studio, but still provide a space for the occasional houseguest to sleep. A pull-down shelf desk in a bedroom or even a walk-in closet can turn an area into a compact home workstation.

- Claim dead space. The area under the stairs or another small spot often is used to collect junk. Instead, it can be turned into a built-in wine rack, a reading nook for kids or even a pet sanctuary with just a few modifications. Analyze areas around the home that seem like they don't serve a purpose, and then figure

out a way to make them more functional.

- Establish room zones. Some people simply cannot transform an entire room into something else. Visual partitioning makes it possible to create rooms within rooms. An area rug can be used to define a border of a space. Open bookshelves can serve as a wall to separate a sleeping area from a lounging spot. Lighting can add dimension to areas in a space. A pendant light over a crafting or work table can be used to define the space.

- Look at utility areas. Unless you are a do-it-yourselfer or have a hobby that takes up much of the garage or basement, utility areas are major spots in a home to consider repurposing. A garage can be turned into a home gym, kids' play area or even a hobby shop. Modular flooring and insulated walls can make the room comfortable. Attic lofts are the ultimate quiet zones, and can be serene spots for reading, meditating or doing homework. An unfinished basement can be converted into a finished space to serve many different purposes. From media rooms to a teen lounge to a hobby cave, the opportunities are endless.

A good rule of thumb before converting any room is to give it a test run. Move in a piece of furniture and test how it works with its intended function. Assess lighting, noise and foot traffic for a week, and then move ahead with changes if the result is positive.

## TRANSITION CONTINUED FROM 8

poorly timed changes can negate these benefits.

### Smart and programmable thermostats

Upgrading to a programmable or smart thermostat is one strategy many homeowners use to avoid constant manual switching. Smart thermostats can automatically adjust heating and cooling settings based on occupancy, time of day and learned preferences, helping maintain comfort with fewer manual tweaks and often reducing overall energy use.

Even traditional programmable thermostats, as described by the DOE, can cut heating and cooling costs by about 10% annually by creating schedules that automatically adjust setpoints when you're away, asleep or less likely to need active temperature control.

### Alternative Comfort-Keeping Options for Temp Swings

Until weather that consistently necessitates cooling settles in, there are several low-impact ways to stay comfortable without constantly flipping between heat and AC.

### Open windows and natural ventilation

When daytime temperatures are moderate and humidity is comfortable, opening windows can bring refreshing air inside and eliminate the need to run heating or cooling — at least temporarily.

### Fans for comfort

Fans don't lower indoor tem-

perature but improve perceived comfort by enhancing airflow. Using ceiling or portable fans on days that don't require mechanical cooling can help maintain comfort while keeping HVAC use to a minimum. DOE energy-saving tips recommend using fans and proper ventilation to reduce reliance on air conditioning.

### Space heaters for targeted warmth

If nights or early mornings are chilly, but the rest of the house doesn't need full-system heating, a portable space heater used safely in occupied rooms can provide targeted comfort without engaging the whole HVAC system. These are best suited for when temperatures are inconsistent.

### Best Practices for a Smooth Seasonal Switch: Summarized

Schedule a spring HVAC check. Have a professional inspect your system early in the season before cooling demand increases and catch issues before they compromise comfort.

Replace or clean filters. Regular filter maintenance improves airflow and energy efficiency in both heat and cooling modes.

Use smart, programmable thermostats. These can reduce unnecessary cycling between heating and cooling and create schedules that match daily use patterns.

Mind your temperature settings. Rather than extreme toggling between modes — especially on mild

days — use natural ventilation or space heaters, and adjust settings gradually to maintain comfort efficiently.

### Comfort, Efficiency and System Longevity

Passing the torch from heating to cooling doesn't have to be a battle with your thermostat. You can rely on reputable guidance from ENERGY STAR and the U.S. Department of Energy, take preventive maintenance seriously and use thoughtful temperature strategies. That'll enable you to help protect your system, reduce energy use and stay comfortable through the spring transition.

As spring settles in and temperatures continue to bounce around, a thoughtful transition from heating to cooling can make all the difference. By staying on top of seasonal maintenance, being mindful of how often you switch thermostat modes and leaning on simple climate-control alternatives, homeowners can reduce unnecessary strain on their HVAC systems while remaining comfortable.

Spring can be less about choosing heat or air conditioning and more about balance — giving your system the care and flexibility it needs now helps ensure reliable, efficient performance when summer's heat fully takes over.

*This story was produced by HomeServe USA and reviewed and distributed by Stacker.*

## WATER CONTINUED FROM 9

However, some gas-powered water heaters can be more energy-efficient than any conventional electric water heater. While some electric pump water heaters have earned the ENERGY STAR label, no standard electric water heater currently features in the list of ENERGY STAR-certified products.

Electricity is seen as a

greener fuel. Unlike gas, no pollutants are emitted when electricity is used at home. Electricity can also be renewably sourced from wind, solar, and other sustainable sources. Gas, on the other hand, comes from fossil fuels.

### Reliability

Water heater reliability varies from one model to the next. Most water heater downtime will require repairs, but power outages are

another common cause. When your home loses electrical power, you won't be able to use your electric water heater. Traditional gas water heaters will be unaffected, so you can continue to receive hot water during a power outage. However, many newer gas models have an electronic ignition system. In a power outage, these water heaters won't be able to ignite, making

them unusable.

Gas water heaters are more complex than electric water heaters, which means there are more potential points of failure. This, along with the extended repair time, can increase downtime due to malfunction.

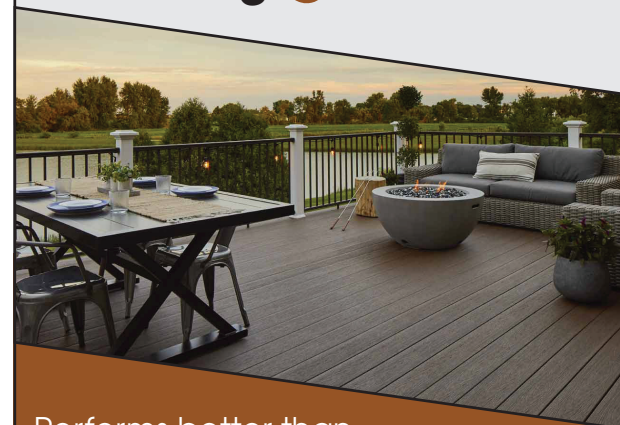
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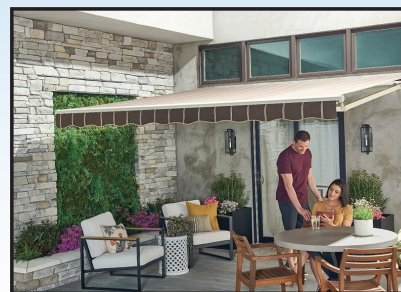
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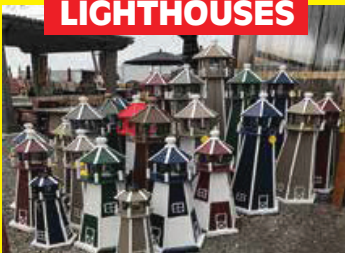
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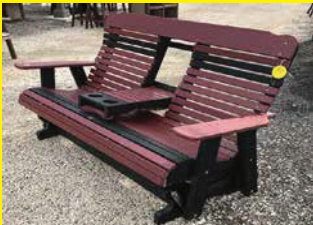


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