

Low-maintenance windows cut fall chores

For years, your choice when shopping for windows was clear: you had to decide between elegant windows with beautiful designs or more practical windows with increased functionality and efficiency. Today, manu-

facturers have successfully married form and function by introducing low-maintenance windows with "90s style."

"Window manufacturers are responding to customers' needs by introducing high-durability,

low-maintenance options," says Mark Siegle, owner of Chicago-based Siegle's one of the country's largest window and door distributors.

"People are looking for windows that not only look great

and work well, but are designed to keep care, upkeep and repair to a minimum."

One popular low-maintenance option is cladding. Clad windows are wood windows that are covered, or clad, with aluminum or vinyl to help protect against wind, rain or snow. While vinyl cladding provides excellent insulation, aluminum cladding offers greater durability and strength. Window manufacturers say heavy-duty cladding helps windows stand up to just about anything. Mother Nature can dish out, including extremes, nitric acid, UV rays, pollutants and hail spray.

"Homeowners are telling us that they don't want to spend their time maintain-

ing windows," says Susan Marvin, president of Marvin Windows and Doors. "Aluminum-clad windows are a great alternative for customers looking for beautiful wood windows with tough, long-lasting exteriors."

Homeowners are finding that clad windows are easy to keep clean. Light surface dirt is usually washed off by normal rainfall, and thicker dirt can be removed with a wash and a rinse with clear water. After rinsing well and drying you can use car wax to add shine.

"Exterior finish is an important aspect of cladding," Siegle says. "To reduce fading or chalking, you'll want to look for a commercial-grade finish that meets and exceeds the American Architectural Manufacturers Association's specifications."

Fading is due to UV rays breaking down pigment in the coating. Chalking occurs when the resin in the cladding is damaged over time.

"Until recently, low-mainte-

nance clad windows typically meant fewer design choices. Consumers looking for clad windows with complicated curves or detailed line patterns were simply out of luck.

However, recently improved production techniques allow thick, low-maintenance extruded aluminum cladding to be shaped with tremendous flexibility including round tops and circular windows.

"It's great to be able to provide windows that are both beautiful to look at and weather-resistant," says Siegle. "It makes my job a whole lot easier to be able to give my customers exactly what they're looking for."

For more information on Marvin's cladding or any Marvin product, contact Marvin Windows and Doors, P.O. Box 200, Warroad, MN 56763, or call 1-800-346-5128. Marvin's Internet address is <http://www.marvin.com>.

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- Developed on over 300 acres preserving the natural environment.

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2 story, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath Colonial with great room, formal dining, beautiful master suite and oversized garage with storage area.
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Make working in kitchen more fun, energy efficient

If you're remodeling your kitchen, or just adding some new appliances, here are some new electric products to consider. They'll help you to get more enjoyment from your kitchen. The appliances will give you more control over your electric bill too, and that can pay you back each month in lower costs, according to the Edison Electric Institute, the national association of electric companies.

■ Electric convection ovens use an oven fan to circulate the hot air around the food. This reduces cooking time and cuts electricity use by up to 40 percent compared to a traditional oven.

■ Induction cooktops offer unequalled precision, and they have the highest efficiency rating of any cooktop: up to 40 percent more efficient.

Induction cooktops cook by making the cookware — not the cooktop — the heat source. A cooler kitchen prevails.

■ Super-efficient refrigerators now use 30 percent less energy than even today's high-efficiency models — without sacrificing size or features.

Effective lighting improves a kitchen's aesthetics and productivity. The new, high-efficiency lighting products include:

■ Compact fluorescents give off an incandescent bulb's warm soft light, while using only 25 percent of the electricity; a 16-watt compact fluorescent can replace a 60-watt incandescent. And they last about 10 times as long.

■ Halogen bulbs are about

25 percent more energy efficient than incandescents and last up to 3,600 hours. A dimmer switch can control these bulbs.

■ Fixture controls include timers, and outside, on docks or patios, photo cells and motion detectors. These can all save electricity by turning lights on and off only when necessary.

For more information about today's high-efficiency electric appliances, call your electric company's residential marketing department.

Whirlpool's 22 cubic foot side-by-side refrigerator, the SERP, offers all the modern conveniences, but it uses up to 30 percent less energy than today's standard refrigerator model. Its refrigeration system is CFC-free too.



When you're #1, you can do things others can't.

BLOOMFIELD HILLS

BUILD YOUR DREAM CASTLE on this 2 acre plus prestigious Charming Cross property. \$550,000. OE49-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 349-1212.

BRIGHTON

SPECTACULAR LOCATION in Lake of the Pines. 250 ft. from the beach, neutral decor, mint condition, many updates, doorwall in dining room and kitchen to tier deck. \$169,000. OE57-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

CANTON

PICTURESQUE COUNTRY SETTING on 4 acres with spring fed pond, 5 bedroom ranch with finished walk-out, 2 fireplaces, 3+ car garage and so much more! \$339,000. OE58-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

PREMIUM LOT

in Covington Square, better than new! Neutral decor, numerous upgrades, ceramic foyer, open staircase, kitchen w/oak cabinets, family room with fireplace and 3 skylights, security system. \$211,000. OE56-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

CLARKSTON

CONTEMPORARY FLAIR! Brick 2/3 bedroom, 3 full bath ranch on a huge lot! Picture window in dining room, fireplace in living room, library, spa room in master suite, finished walk-out basement. Deck. 2 car attached garage. \$187,500. CENTURY 21 Nade, Inc. (810) 477-9800.

COMMERCIAL

PREMIUM PROPERTY on Lake Sherwood, incredible view beautifully maintained 4 bedroom quad, skylights, 6 panel doors, ceramic tile, walk-out, 2 patios, extensive deck work, etc. \$419,000. OE43-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 349-1212.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

LOVELY 3 BEDROOM HOME, 19x16 family room, 23x12 living room, many updates, windows, roof, etc., cozy country porch, all under \$72,000. CALL CENTURY 21 Chaleit. 313-432-7600.

WELL MAINTAINED!

Brick 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath ranch. Nicely decorated, updated kitchen and bath, large living room, newer carpeting throughout and finished basement. Garage. \$84,900. CENTURY 21 Nade, Inc. (810) 477-9800.

DETROIT

GREAT BUY! Well maintained 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, 2 story. Foyer, fireplace in living room, kitchen w/dining area, partially finished basement, 2 car garage. \$27,900. CENTURY 21 Nade Inc. 477-9800.

FARMINGTON

WALK TO TOWN! Sprawling 4 bedroom, 3 full and 2 half bath brick ranch. Fireplace in family room, sunken living room, large kitchen w/breakfast room, study, 1st floor laundry, finished basement. Deck, 2 car attached side entrance garage. \$228,900. CENTURY 21 Nade Inc. (810) 477-9800.

FARMINGTON HILLS

A PLACE TO BEGIN. Nice starter home on huge country lot includes 3 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, updated bath and separate workshop. \$454,980. \$128,900. CENTURY 21 Hartford. (810) 478-6000.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4.

Quality abounds in this 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath ranch featuring formal dining room, kitchen with island and nook and many updates. 645360. CENTURY 21 Hartford. (810) 478-6000.

HIGHLAND

STOP LOOKING! Spectacular 2.44 acres w/Harvey Lake frontage. Beautiful mature trees plus 2800 sq. ft. home w/in-law quarters. 4 bedrooms + den + guest house. \$259,900. Call CENTURY 21 Meck 887-7575 or 1-800-312-3673 to reach her pager (820W).

SHARP ONE ACRE

LAKEFRONT, Lake, land, and an approx. 2100 sq. ft. 3 bedroom 2 bath home with a huge 32x24 garage. Open floor plan, terrific large master and walkout lower level. \$169,999. Call CENTURY 21 Meck 887-7575. (572G).

HOWELL

BEAUTIFUL 5.6 ACRE acre building site, perfect for walk-out construction, underground utilities, 4 miles from downtown Howell. \$49,900. OE59-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 349-1212.

LIVONIA

LIVONIA BRICK, Cozy 3 bedroom bungalow, dining room, finished basement, central air, block windows, 2 car garage and One Year Home Warranty. \$94,900. CENTURY 21 John Cole R.E. 937-2300.

COUNTRY IN THE CITY

describes this 4 bedroom ranch on over 1/2 of an acre, finished basement, 2 car garage and more. CALL CENTURY 21 Chaleit. (313) 432-7600.

SUPER STARTER HOME!

Sitting on a huge lot is this 2 bedroom ranch. Large living room, remodeled kitchen and newer carpeting. \$88,900. CENTURY 21 Nade, Inc. (810) 477-9800.

LIVONIA

AFFORDABLE! 4 bedroom Cape Cod with many updates. Cathedral ceiling in great room, generous kitchen w/eating area, newer windows and doors. Above ground pool, 2 car garage w/220. \$82,900. CENTURY 21 Nade, Inc. (810) 477-9800.

GREAT FAMILY NEIGHBORHOOD.

Kimberly Oaks 3 bedroom ranch, move-in condition. Huge great room with fireplace and oak floors. Lots of extras. Call today! \$149,900. CENTURY 21 Row. (313) 464-7111.

JUST LISTED.

Brick 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch. Finished basement and all brick garage. Neutral decor. Won't last long. Immediate occupancy. Only \$117,900. CENTURY 21 Row. (313) 464-7111.

WELL BUILT 3 bedroom

brick ranch in Rosedale Gardens, hardwood floors, cove ceiling and natural fireplace in freshly painted living room, finished basement, 1 1/2 car garage. \$119,000. OE55-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

NORTHVILLE

MANY UPDATES in this Whisperwood 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial, super clean and neutral, premium corner lot with newer patio and landscaping. \$244,500. OE47-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 349-1212.

PINKNEY

\$49,900. BEAUTIFUL wooded acre lot in Copper Cove Sub. Close to Pinkney Middle & High School. 25 min. from Ann Arbor. Builders Welcome. For more information call Nancy Forbes at CENTURY 21 N.E.F. (810) 231-5000.

Plymouth

IMPRESSIVE CAPE COD. Dramatic entry with hardwood floors, count-

less upgrades in kitchen.

1st floor master suite with fireplace, 3/4 acre lot, circular drive, 3 car garage. \$369,900. OE60-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

REDFORD RANCH

OPEN SUN 2-5 18500 Glenmore, E. of Beech Daly, S. of Seven Mile. Very sharp 3 bedroom home with finished basement, central air, 2 car garage, many extras! "Move In" condition. \$77,900. CENTURY 21 John Cole Realty, Inc. 937-2300.

SOUTH REDFORD RANCH

GREAT FAMILY HOME, 3 bedrooms, dining room, finished basement, excellent South Redford Schools. Immediate Occupancy. \$82,900. CENTURY 21 John Cole R.E. 937-2300.

REDFORD RANCH

GREAT STARTER home for under \$65,000. This 3 bedroom brick front was built in 1975. Stove, washer and dryer to stay. \$63,900. CENTURY 21, John Cole R.E. 937-2300.

REDFORD

BRICK RANCH! Freshly painted 3 bedroom home. Hardwood floors, cozy living room, kitchen w/dining ell, full basement, 2 car garage. \$84,900. CENTURY 21 Nade, Inc. (810) 477-9800.

SOUTH LYON

SWEET OPPORTUNITY. Sit down ice cream parlor in South Lyons' busiest strip. \$120,000. Call Travis for the scoop. CENTURY 21 Meck. (810) 887-7575.

WESTLAND

COUNTRY LIVING on an acre - great 3 bedroom ranch with pool, deck and garage. Possible rent with option terms available. Livonia schools. \$99,900. OE12-S CENTURY 21 Suburban. 455-5880.

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