

Boston Building Materials Co-op and Building Materials Resource Center



Spring 2010 Workshop Schedule

Building a Raised-Bed Garden

If you've been thinking about building a raised-bed garden, SmartTimbers are a non-toxic and long-lasting alternative to pressure-treated lumber or railroad ties. (They're made from recycled plastic milk jugs.) This workshop will show you how to lay out the job, prepare the ground, cut timbers, and install using rebar to anchor and align them. Because SmartTimbers are lighter than wood and don't require any special tools, this project is doable for most any handy homeowner. This workshop will be held at a member's home in the local area. Directions will be sent after registration.

John Leek learned many remodeling skills while rehabilitating an abandoned triple-decker. He discovered his love of assisting other homeowners while working at the Boston Building Materials Co-op and now has his own company, HomeownerCoach.

Saturday, April 24

10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Workshop policies

Participants may register for classes in person, by phone, or via mail. **Payment must be made at the time of registration.** Cash, checks, and credit cards are accepted. If registering by mail, call first to check workshop availability.

If you are unable to attend and wish to cancel your registration, you may do so under the following conditions:

- 1 If cancellation occurs at least one week (seven days) or more before the class, you may receive a refund, less a \$5.00 registration fee.
- 2 If cancellation occurs by 4:30 p.m. on the Tuesday before the class, you may receive a class credit, less a \$5.00 registration fee.
- 3 All other cancellations are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

Installing Replacement Windows

You don't have to be a carpenter to install replacement windows. What you do need are the right tools and a clear understanding of how to proceed. Learn how to measure for new windows, take out existing ones, and prepare the openings. You will also learn techniques for keeping new windows square during installation in old window frames.

Pernell Jackson is a contractor with experience in a wide variety of areas. He is a Boston Building Materials Co-op staff member.

Saturday, May 1

10:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m.



Window Rehab

Now that spring is here, it's time to open the windows—and to make sure they work properly! Many local homeowners decide to replace their house's original windows when some simple and inexpensive improvements will make the existing windows more energy-efficient for a lot less money than replacements. Learn

how to disassemble double-hung windows, replace ropes, restore sashes, reinforce loose joints, and weatherstrip.

We are looking for someone local to volunteer his or her home for this workshop. If you are interested, please let us know when you register.

David Liberty is an ardent supporter of maintaining old windows. His company, windowrepair.com, is dedicated exclusively to old window restoration. David teaches window repair throughout the Boston area.

**Saturday, May 8
10:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.**



Finish Carpentry: Crown Molding

Crown molding at the top of cabinets or where a wall meets the ceiling can give a room a stately feel, especially in an older home. This workshop will cover the basics of how to install crown molding: how to measure, how to make the challenging cope cuts at the corners, compensating for walls that are not quite plumb and square, and tips for keeping the molding in place while nailing it overhead.

We are looking for someone local to volunteer his or her home for this workshop. If you are interested, please let us know when you register.

Vin Dorio has been a carpenter for more than 20 years. He has worked on small and large remodeling projects as a carpenter, supervisor, and manager. His company, House Calls, specializes in home maintenance and remodeling projects.

**Saturday, May 15
10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.**



Tiling

This hands-on workshop, one of our most popular classes, will cover all aspects of tiling. Learn about ceramic and stone tile, including materials, layout, cutting, and installation. Applications in bathrooms and kitchens will be addressed, and hands-on training will help participants learn tile-setting techniques. Whether you have a tiling project in mind or just want to better understand how tiles stay up on the walls, this class will set a pattern for success!

David Foley is self-taught in this age-old craft and has extensive experience in all aspects of laying tile.

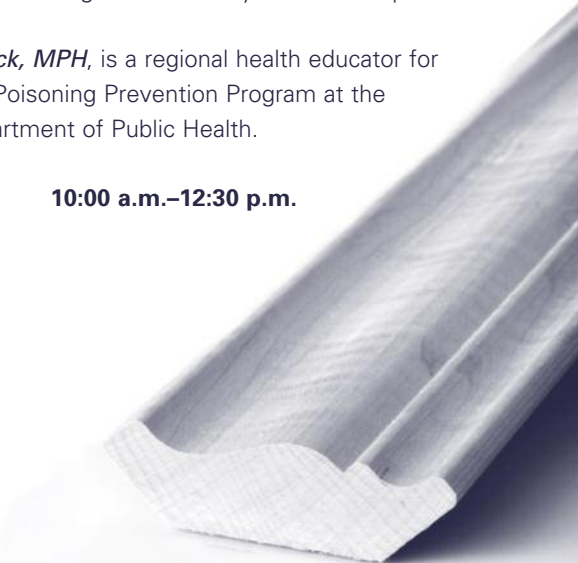
**Saturday, May 22
10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.**

Navigating the Hazards of Lead Paint

If, like many of us, you live in a house built before 1978, you need to be aware of the dangers of lead paint. This workshop will start with the basics of how lead paint poses a danger to human health, especially in young children and pregnant women. You will learn what types of deleading can be done by homeowners themselves and what must be done by a licensed lead abatement contractor. And, with new regulations now in place from the Environmental Protection Agency, find out what any contractors you may hire should be doing to work safely around lead paint.

Arianwen Hedgecock, MPH, is a regional health educator for the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

**Saturday, May 22
10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.**



Making an Armoire from Doors



Add more storage to your home by using affordable doors from the Building Materials Resource Center to build an armoire like the one pictured at left. This workshop will cover selecting the right doors to use, tips on adapting used or surplus materials for a new use, tools you will need to make an armoire, and tips and tricks for a neat finished appearance.

Bob Francey is a Mission Hill community activist, avid gardener, and handy homeowner with a passion for the environment and for reuse. He serves on the Building Materials Resource Center Board of Trustees.

Saturday, June 5 10:00 a.m.–noon

Kitchen Design, Parts I and II

The kitchen is the heart of one's home, and this two-part workshop will cover everything you need to know to design a kitchen that fits your lifestyle. In Part I, we start with a basic floor plan and cover the myriad of variables that must be considered for a kitchen layout: appliance standards, door and window openings, storage needs, budget, and more. In Part II, we will examine cabinets and countertops—the many materials, styles, and price ranges available. Participants may submit floor plans of their individual projects, and one will be chosen at random for examination in greater detail. Designing a kitchen can seem overwhelming at first, but taken step by step, it is fun and exciting to create a design that suits your family's needs and budget. This popular class fills up quickly! Participants must enroll in both Parts I and II.

Linda Lesyna is the Boston Building Materials Co-op retail manager and kitchen specialist. She has training in interior design and has worked as a licensed carpenter. Linda has been designing functional and attractive kitchens for more than 15 years.

Kim Eifrid, a Co-op kitchen specialist, brings more than 20 years of experience in the retail hardware business along with his creative edge in kitchen design.

Part I: Saturday, June 5
Part II: Wednesday, June 16

1:30–4:00 p.m.
6:00–8:30 p.m.

Home Electrical Safety

Your home electrical system powers everything from major appliances to small gadgets. At this workshop, you will gain an understanding how this system works and what's involved with maintaining it. We'll look at examples of unsafe wiring, information about circuit breakers, fuses, electrical panels, halogen lights, and how electricity is used. You will leave with information you can take home to eliminate or minimize some of the everyday hazards we all have in our homes. Join us as we shed some light on this important topic!

Peg Preble has been working as a licensed electrician in the Boston area for the past 18 years. Previously, she was an auto mechanic, which is where she discovered her love of wiring. Peg specializes in older houses.

~~Saturday, June 19~~

10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

Rescheduled to Saturday, June 26

Window and Screen Repair Clinic

Free!

Get your windows ready for summer by learning to replace broken panes and torn screens yourself. Just bring in the window or screen that needs repair, and we'll show you the rest. Then come back any time to do other repairs yourself. It's easier than you think! You pay for materials only.

Saturdays: May 1, June 5, July 10,
August 7, September 11
Preregistration required

9:00–10:00 a.m.

Please feel free to park on Terrace Street when attending a workshop. The weekday two-hour parking limit is not in effect on Saturdays.

All workshops are held at Boston Building Materials Co-op unless otherwise noted.

Workshop Registration Form

Workshop Fees:

To register: The best way to ensure that you get into the workshop(s) you want is to call us at **617.442.2262** to ask if there is still space, then use your MasterCard or Visa to guarantee your spot. You may also use the form below and send it, together with your payment, to BBMC, 100 Terrace Street, Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120-2418. *Space is limited, so please register early.*

Understanding House Wiring, Hazards of Lead Paint

Co-op Member \$35 BMRC Member \$25 General Public \$60

All Other Workshops

Co-op Member \$45 BMRC Member \$35 General Public \$70

Window and Screen Repair Clinic

No charge for Co-op and BMRC Members

Name _____

Home Phone (_____) _____

Work/Cell (_____) _____

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

I am a member of the Boston Building Materials Co-op.

I am a member of the Building Materials Resource Center.

I would like to receive information about the Boston Building Materials Co-op and the Building Materials Resource Center (circle one or both).

Please register me for the following workshop(s): Date:

Tax-deductible contribution to the BMRC: _____

Total Fee Enclosed: _____

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**Boston Building Materials Co-op
and Building Materials Resource Center**

100 Terrace Street
Roxbury Crossing, MA 02120-2418

BBMC: 617.442.2262 • fax 617.427.2491
www.bbmc.com

BBMC: 617.442.8917 • fax 617.427.2491
www.bostonbmc.org