Subject:

Your March 2025 Real Estate Update



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Hello Valued Client,

There's a Tanzanian proverb, "Little by little, a little becomes a lot," which can be applied to anything, whether it's fitness, relationship goals, or developing a new skill. The same can be said for every little improvement you make to your property over time.

The great thing about these e-newsletters is that they are packed with a variety of ideas on how you can improve your home to increase its value, help save you money, enjoy your home more, and live a healthier life. This month's e-newsletter, for example, features articles about window treatments, how to choose a home security system, and DIY natural cleaners. While these may seem like little things when it comes time to sell, the more improvements you have made to your home "little by little," the greater the return on your investment will be.

If you would like me to assess your property and suggest improvements that would give you the best bang for your buck, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Call or email today.

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### **An Eye into Window Coverings**

Window coverings help give a room a cohesive look while also serving practical purposes. So where do you begin when choosing the right ones?



First, decide on your priorities for each window, such as light control, privacy, room function, décor style, and energy savings.

Once you know your priorities you can shop around. The three most common types of window coverings are:

- Shades Typically, shades are made of a single piece of fabric that can be raised up or down depending on how much light and privacy is desired. Roman shades are a popular choice for their elegance and timelessness.
- 2. **Blinds** provide a minimalist and modern look and are available in horizontal or vertical options. They are also a good choice for windows with drapery that sometimes need extra privacy.
- 3. **Curtains** A good option for creating warmth in any room. Drapery panels also accentuate ceiling height and can make small windows appear larger. They work well for large windows and sliding doors and can exude a grand, elegant look. Or for a dose of charm in your kitchen, consider café curtains.

Whatever covering you choose there's a variety of styles, light filtering options, and some even have motorized capabilities.

To "close the curtain" on this article, aim to match your window treatments with your overall interior design for a harmonious look and feel.

### **Demystifying Home Security Systems**

If you are exploring how to make your property a little safer, there is no shortage of home security systems on the market. So, what are the options and how do you choose the right one for your home?



The most common types of cameras include **smart doorbells** connected to your phone so you can verify people who are requesting entry. The apps can also alert you of the activity with features such as, **spotlight** (records video and lights up the surrounding area in response to movement); and **motion** (records video if it senses any motion).

Another option is a security alarm sensor system. They are equipped with keypads and other options to arm or disarm the system when you're entering or leaving the property. The sensors are installed at entry points and are triggered when doors and windows are opened, when glass is broken, and when motion is detected. Whenever sensors are activated, they sound an alarm or send an alert.

The right system for you depends partly on the **level of protection that is desired.** Do you just want a smart doorbell, or do you want all points of entry secured with 24/7 professional monitoring?

Also, **consider your budget.** The cost will increase the more equipment you have, if you have 24/7 professional monitoring, and if you have it professionally installed.

Finally, consider if you want a **wireless or hardwired system.** For monitoring on your phone, you will need a Wi-Fi system, however, if you are in an area with poor Wi-Fi reception, a hardwired system is a safer option.

And don't forget to **read the fine print if you are signing a contract**, especially as it pertains to cancellation fees.

# Jump Into Spring Cleaning With DIY Natural Cleaners

As the first day of spring arrives, what better time than now to whip up some natural cleaners for a little spring cleaning? These are non-toxic so there are no harmful fumes or toxic residues, and if you have little ones you don't have to worry about accidental poisoning. They are also better for the environment, as they are biodegradable and reduce plastic waste. Here are three easy-to-make, natural home cleaners.



#### **Citrus-Infused All-Purpose Cleaner**

- 1. Fill a jar with citrus peels of your choice.
- 2. Cover the peels with white vinegar.
- 3. Let the mixture sit for 2 to 4 weeks. Strain the liquid and dilute it by combining equal parts of the citrus-vinegar solution and water into a spray bottle.

#### **Toilet Bowl Cleaner**

- 1. Sprinkle a quarter cup of baking soda into the toilet bowl.
- 2. Add a quarter cup of white vinegar.
- 3. Let the mixture fizz for 15 minutes. **Optional**: Add a few drops of tea tree essential oil for additional antibacterial effectiveness.
- 4. Scrub with a toilet brush and flush.

#### **Glass and Mirror Cleaner**

- 1. Combine 1 cup of water and 1/4 cup of white vinegar. **Optional**: Add a few drops of your favourite essential oil for a pleasant scent.
- 2. Add 2 tablespoons of rubbing alcohol.

Happy Cleaning!

## Notable, Quotable, Quotes!

"Only that day dawns to which we are awake."

Henry David Thoreau

"The saddest five words in the English language are: I wish I would have."

Ray M. Smythe

"Knowing is not enough, we must apply. Willing is not enough, we must do."

**Bruce Lee** 

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