

# FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

## How to Invite More Natural Light Into Your Home

## Hatch Furniture and Flooring Participates in National Furniture Sale

A dark home can be dreary and drain residents' energy levels rather quickly. Natural light has the power to make a person feel more energized, and it also can buoy spirits. As a result, many homeowners want to increase the amount of natural light in their homes.

Increasing natural sunlight in a home reduces reliance on interior lighting. This reduces energy bills and lowers the home's carbon footprint.

Natural light also can help people in a home feel happier and more content.

According to the National Institutes of Health, some people experience serious mood changes during the winter months.

Dubbed seasonal affective disorder, or SAD, this condition may be effectively treated with light therapy. Exposure to more light can alleviate fatigue, loss of interest and sad or anxious feelings.

Homeowners looking to increase the natural light in their homes, be it for medical or aesthetic reasons, can do so in a variety of ways.

\* Keep the drapes open. Opening blinds and curtains as far as they will go allows as much light to shine in without having to do major home renovations or spend any money at all. Homeowners concerned about privacy can install a window

film that allows viewing from the inside only.

\* Clean the windows. Dirty windows obstruct sunlight from entering the home. They also can make a home appear unkempt. Spend a free day cleaning the windows so that they'll let ample light in.

\* Install seamless or low-profile windows and doors. Seamless sliding doors enable a large amount of light to enter the home. Such doors can replace an entire wall to brighten up a dark area of a home. The more windows and doors a home has, the brighter it will be.

\* Take inventory of dark spots. A room may be dark because it simply does not have a layout conducive to brightness. Is a wall blocking light from reaching a portion of the room? Think about changing the room's layout or even making structural changes to improve light distribution. The addition of a small window on a south- or west-facing wall can greatly improve natural light. Using mirrors can also reflect light where it is needed.

\* Invest in skylights or solar tubes. Both skylights or solar tubes enable light to enter a home from above. Skylights are larger and require considerably more work to install, while solar tubes are more low-profile and can be put into rooms that do not abut the



New windows may allow more natural light to enter a home.

roofline, such as those obstructed by attic space. The tubular cylinders are installed between the roof and the ceiling and carry light through a reflective tube to the room below. Diffusers on tubular daylighting devices scatter the rays so the light doesn't cast harsh shadows, and UV filters can help protect furniture from discoloring.

\* Trim shrubs and trees. If trees and bushes are blocking light from entering your home, trim them to enable dappled light to come through. Deciduous trees that will naturally lose their

leaves come autumn can be planted on sunny areas of the property. This way in the summer months they will shade the house and keep it cooler, while in winter more sun will stream in when the leaves are shed.

\* Create a three-season room. Make a spot in the home where sun will be at a premium. A solarium or greenhouse attached to the home can be a warm and sunny spot.

Increasing natural light in a home can improve feelings of well-being and also reduce energy consumption during daylight hours.

■ Metro Creative Connection

Hatch Furniture, a local member of Furniture First National Buying Cooperative, is participating in the group's first National furniture sale. The National Furniture Sale is going on from September 20-29, 2013.

Furniture First is a cooperative of 206 family-owned furniture retailers, operating 435 stores all together. These stores work together as a group to bring outstanding values and exclusive products to their communities in 47 states. Because these independent, family-owned furniture stores work together they can negotiate deals to rival larger corporate retail chain stores. The group's buying power boosts the furniture values these community and customer-centric retailers offer.

Hatch Furniture has been a member of Furniture First since 1996. Ron Hatch served on the board for 12 years and was chairman for 2 years.

Furniture First Members have a lot in common with each other. The typical Member has been in business for more than 45 years and is run by a second or third generation.

Furniture First Members have a strong connection to the communities they

serve.

The qualifications for Membership in the National Buying Cooperative result in a high-quality cooperative. Furniture First only accepts stores that are full-line independents that have been in business for more than five years. Stores are required to have good credit and meet minimum volume requirements to be part of the group.

Most Members, whether they have a single storefront or a chain of locations, have an excellent community reputation. Since the group is geographically exclusive by representation, Members are not in direct competition with each other, adding to the overall willingness to share and collaborate among the Cooperative's Members.

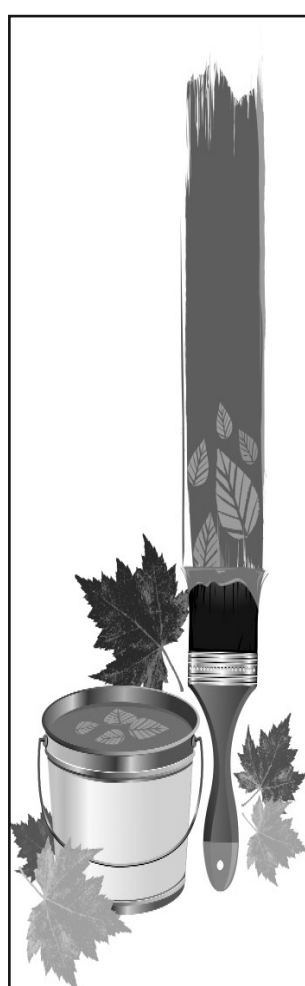
Furniture First is a 19-year-old national "Home Furnishings & Mattress: only buying group serving the over \$2million full line independent retailer.

Furniture First has 206 company members representing 435 store fronts and \$1.6 billion in retail sales.

For more information on Furniture First, please call Bill Hartman at

800-411-3477, ext. 123 or email

BHartman@FurnitureFirst.com



**CHILL OUT** ... some place **warm**

Take the chill out of the fall weather with a dip in a warm & relaxing hot tub from Leisure World.

Many affordable choices & full service after the sale!

**LEISURE WORLD, INC.**  
Spas • Swimming Pools • Saunas  
1900 Broadway Ave, Yankton, SD 57078 • 605-665-1240  
2500 S. 13th St., Norfolk, NE 68701 • 402-371-8425  
[www.leisureworldsd.com](http://www.leisureworldsd.com)

CalderaSpas®  
Pure Comfort

Save Up To **\$3550**  
with manufacturer's rebates and utilities rebates

Turn to the Experts  
Carrier  
Up To 5 Years Financing Available\*\*  
turn to the experts

\*\*Certain restrictions apply.  
With purchase of qualified air conditioner or heat pump system.

**Larry's HEATING & COOLING**  
920 Broadway • 665-9461

Call **OLSON'S** for your **termite inspection**

**OLSON'S**  
PEST TECHNICIANS

**1-800-KIL-BUGS**

- Bedbugs •Mice •Bats •Rats
- Ants •Bees •Roaches
- Silverfish •Fleas •Termites

Fireplaces and wood burning stoves were responsible for some 23,600 residential fires.

PR Olson THE FLUE DOCTORS  
Chimney Sweeps  
Dryer  
Exhaust Technicians

Call for an appointment today!  
665-5181 • 1-800-545-2847



## Yankton's Oldest Exclusive Flooring Store!

Doyle & Dorothy Stewart opened Stewart Carpet Center in downtown Yankton in 1958. Three years later, in 1961, they built their current location at 1803 Broadway, which at that time was on the very outskirts of Yankton.

In 1980, Doyle and Dorothy retired and sold the business to their son, Gregg and his wife Mary Lee. In 1990, because of the popularity of hard surfaces in flooring, the Stewart's expanded their inventory to include other floor coverings such as wood, laminate, vinyl and tile.

Stewart Carpet Center has built a reputation for offering quality products and personal service for over 50 years!



2013 - Current Location

**Stewart Carpet Center**

1803 Broadway, Yankton, SD 605.665.7183

1958 - Downtown Location

[www.stewartcarpetcenter.com](http://www.stewartcarpetcenter.com)