

ReNews

Official Newsletter of NAHB Remodelers



NAHB Remodelers



To Chantel Bartlett, NAHB member #1693201

NAHB Remodelers Year in Review

Dear Chantel,

As 2017 wraps up, I want to express what an honor it's been serving as your chairman this year. I've represented your interests at remodeling industry events, in NAHB meetings and during national media interviews. I'm in awe of the accomplishments of your local councils, such as Tulsa's project with the [Today's Homeowner TV show](#) and Birmingham's \$17,000 [fish fry fundraiser](#).

Here's some of the year's highlights:

Remodeler confidence hit a two-year high.

2017 [started off strong](#) with the Remodeling Market Index hitting 58, the highest since 2015. [It fell slightly](#) to 55 in the second quarter, but [bounced back](#) to 57 in the third. The fourth quarter RMI is out in January.

The market continues on an upward path.

The remodeling market grew an average of 12.5% in 2017. This growth will carry into the first quarter of 2018, though remodelers can [expect continued challenges](#) with finding labor and increased material costs. The average growth of 2018 is predicted to be 4.9%.

NAHB fought hard for legislative and regulatory improvements:

- [NAHB staff and leadership](#) have been [heavily involved](#) with the tax reform debate and [support the final bill](#) that is being voted on this week.
- [NAHB led the charge](#) opposing the [Volks rule](#) and Congress [struck it down](#) in March. [OSHA's](#) recordkeeping rule would have needlessly harmed small employers.
- [EPA waived lead paint requirements for certain emergency renovations](#). NAHB is working with EPA to provide clarity to remodelers working in pre-1978 homes damaged by hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Separately, former NAHBR Chair Bob Hanbury [asked the EPA](#) in May to reconsider the costs of complying with the Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule.

- NAHB's legal challenge is still outstanding, but OSHA's new silica rule took effect Oct. 23. NAHB created member resources, including [this Q&A](#), a [checklist](#) and a [Silica in Construction Toolkit](#).

Members took advantage of benefits.

Remodelers across the country took advantage of [many benefits](#), including free monthly professional development Lunch & Learn webcasts (if you missed one, access replays in the [NAHBR Resource Library](#)). Members also downloaded [free state-level remodeling expenditure data](#) to know where to micro-target marketing money.

NAHBR members were featured in major news outlets, including:

- [Hurricane Harvey: Worker shortage slows rebuilding after storms](#) (USA Today)
- [7 Best Practices to Remodel a Home](#) (Kiplinger)
- [How to Collect Money for Home Repairs](#) (Houston Chronicle)
- [11 Secrets Contractors Wished Home Owners Knew](#) (Reader's Digest)
- [What to Know about Refinishing a Basement](#) (Washington Post)

Hot remodeling trends emerged.

Better Homes & Gardens featured [16 kitchen trends](#) with staying power, including quartz countertops and industrial sinks. Satin nickel was a [popular bathroom trend](#) in 2017, but brass is predicted to surge in 2018. Expect a few customers to request the [2018 Pantone color of the year](#), Ultra Violet.

ICYMI, here are the top five most-read ReNews stories of 2017:

- [7 Things Consumers Look for in a Contractor](#)
- [3 Ways the Trump Administration Could Affect Your Firm](#)
- [4 Common Kitchen Mistakes Pros Should Avoid](#)
- [Take Your Company From \\$1.3M to \\$2.5M+ Without Killing Yourself](#)
- [2 Ways to Handle the Wonderful Curse of Backlog](#)



From NAHB Remodelers national leadership and staff, we wish you a very happy holiday season. We thank you for your membership this year and look forward to starting 2018 off strong at [Remodelers Central](#) and the [All-Stars Celebration](#) at the [International Builders' Show!](#)

As your first (and probably last!) "Cow Suit Council Chair," you all make me proud to be a part of NAHB Remodelers.

Your 2017 NAHBR Chairman,
Dan Bawden, CAPS, CGP, CGR, GMB

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