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DESIGN/BUILD REVIEW

Volume 11 : Issue 5

Autumn is here calling many of us into the kitchen, arms loaded with the garden's final harvest or a fresh bounty purchased at the farmers market. Whether you have hearty soups, warm casseroles, or chewy breads in mind, consider checking out our new favorite cookbook called [Cooking Up the Good Life](#) by the arboretum's top chef Jenny Breen and co-author Susan Thurston. Thurston treated visitors to simple fall dishes at our Green Dream Parade Home last month and we haven't stopped cooking since!

And speaking of the Parade, thank you to all for visiting our Green Dream Home in Golden Valley - we enjoyed meeting and talking with so many of you in person and can't wait to do it again next year! Watch our e-news for event announcements and tour updates.

DREAM ABOUT IT : KITCHEN REMODEL



Restoring Charm and Function to a Bryn Mawr Bungalow Kitchen - Details Matter!

The space was small (126 sq. ft.), the layout unchangeable (city setbacks), and the wish list long. But oh ... did the details make all the difference for this historic Bryn Mawr kitchen remodel!

Paul and Kristin Markert contacted us recently when planning their kitchen remodel. Their wish list included: 1) Seating for family gatherings and dinner parties; 2) More storage; and 3) Restored Bungalow aesthetics (the kitchen had last been



remodeled during the 1970s).

We addressed these needs with a high-function design that included a new wall-to-wall bench in the adjoining dining room for large gatherings and new counter seating for after-school snacks. *Six new seats, no new square footage.*

Every last inch of the kitchen then was scrutinized for smart storage options. Custom cabinets were used to turn what once were disadvantages (an awkward doorway that necessitated an angled sink counter) into assets (a built-in recycling center, knife drawer, chalkboard message center, and phone charging station). Cabinetry also included a new bank of 28" deep, full-extension roll-out trays ensuring that the cooks of this house have lots of room for sundries. *Plenty of new storage, no new square footage.*

And, of course, cooking always is a bit more inspired when the space is beautiful! Custom cabinets were designed with simple flat panel doors and fabricated using dove-tail joinery as is typical of Bungalow cabinetry.

Cabinet uppers were enameled using *White Dove* from Benjamin Moore's Historic Collection -- as was common during the 1920s. Bungalow expert Jane Powell writes "[Bungalow] kitchen cabinets were either varnished or painted with enamel in shades of off-white to beige as white was considered sanitary." Lower cabinets were finished in red oak to tie in the home's existing woodwork and to increase practicality. (Two kids, large Labrador Retriever ... need we say more?)

A farmhouse sink and *Carrara* marble, authentic to the 1920s period, were used to aesthetically brighten the north-facing space while walls were painted a rich, historically accurate, fawn color.

And, for a bit of whimsy, the green tea-colored backsplash tile was selected to pay tribute to the home's original 1929 wall color - found beneath several layers of wall paper during demolition! What fun! We love it when our clients smile.





The Markert's kitchen was shown recently during the Minneapolis-St. Paul Home Tour. If you missed it, check out the [project photos](#) at our website or read about it in this month's issue of the *Minneapolis-St. Paul Magazine Home Guide*.

GET OUT AND SEE IT : EVENT

Wintergreens Workshop for Your Home

Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th



Heidi Heiland of Heidi's Lifestyle Gardens joined us during the Parade of Homes to share ideas for colorful fall container gardens. She'll be at it again this November offering a Wintergreens Workshop in Plymouth. Heidi's designers will be on hand to help you create spruce-tip containers, table-top centerpieces, holiday wreaths or decorative bows from their extensive assortment of greens and materials! Or let Heidi's staff create an arrangement for you. Bring your own container or purchase one on site. Heidi's team will even deliver your finished products!

Reservations required. Contact info@BloomOnMN.com.

CONTACT US



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Sincerely,

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