



Dan Muhling owns and operates TruBlue Barrington offering home repairs and maintenance including handyman services, house cleaning services, seasonal projects, and landscape design and installation.

Your HOA Alternative

ONE POINT OF CONTACT FOR YOUR HOME'S
INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR SERVICE NEEDS

BETWEEN BUSY SCHEDULES and everyday life demands, repairs and general home maintenance can be overwhelming and time-consuming. This can lead some homeowners to consider purchasing a condo or home in a community with a homeowner's association (HOA). The simplicity of an HOA maintaining the outside of the home is often a leading decision-making factor.

INTRODUCING THE HOME SERVICES COMPANY

It is no longer necessary to leave your home for condo living to gain the benefits of an HOA. Leading companies in the home services industry have developed personalized packages offering similar services to that of an HOA, but with more benefits. In addition to outside home maintenance, these

packages also cover maintenance and repairs inside the home—an added value typically not included in an HOA.

Working with a home services company that acts as a single point of contact for all your home maintenance and repair needs eliminates the burden of managing multiple trades. A home service company is beneficial for anyone and especially helpful for elderly homeowners who want to continue to live in their familiar and comfortable home.

SERVICE PACKAGES PERSONALIZED TO FIT YOUR NEEDS

Look for a home services provider that will give you a detailed, calendarized list of regular preventative maintenance and general service items for inside and outside the home. This list should

be customized to the specific needs of each homeowner and their property.

Typical calendarized services may include preventative maintenance items geared toward reducing the chance of unexpected expensive repairs in the future—such as scheduled replacement of sump pumps, furnace and air conditioning service, weather proofing the exterior of the home, or inspection of the home inside and outside to prevent potential water or mold damage.

More general services can include replacement of smoke detector batteries, hard-to-reach light bulbs, or furnace filters. Homeowners may choose a wide range of services from lawn care and snow removal, maid help and cleaning, and a set number of hours per month of general repair services.



The scope of services you purchase should be clearly outlined in writing with details of what, when, and who will perform the services. Expect to pay a monthly amount like a typical HOA fee. The agreement should have the option of cancelation by you at any time without owning future months payments.

CHOOSING A PROVIDER

Look for a company that is local. Its craftsmen will be visiting your home, and it is tough to provide a high level of customer service from a distance.

Your safety and security are important. For your peace of mind, choose a company that is willing to provide you with proof of liability insurance in an amount at least equal to the value of your home. The company's employees should be carefully screened, and the company should be insured for employee theft. Don't hesitate to ask your service company for clarity on these items.

With less time spent on repairs and maintenance of your home, you will have more time to spend doing the things you enjoy with people you care about the most in a home a you love. This is by far the greatest value of a home service company. U

Dan Muhling grew up on a large farm and worked as a car and heavy truck master mechanic after graduating high school. After saving for college, he earned his undergraduate degree and graduate degree in finance and went into banking. He moved from Detroit to the Chicago area and spent the last 25 years of his career working in finance, including commercial banking, derivative structuring and sales, private equity and mezzanine investing, and served in CEO and Board of Director roles. Muhling and his wife, Sandra, have two daughters, Danielle and Sabrina.

Muhling's total house care management business, TruBlue Barrington, offers busy home owners one point of contact for all their home care needs, including handyman services, maid and cleaning services, seasonal projects, scheduled maintenance, landscape design and maintenance, a home watch program, a senior accessibility and safety program and more. TruBlue also works with homeowners, realtors, and rental property owners who need to quickly get homes move-in ready and keep them maintained and has commercial services for business clients. TruBlue Barrington serves Barrington, Inverness, Lake Zurich, Long Grove, Libertyville, Vernon Hills, Kildeer, and Buffalo Grove. All TruBlue employees are licensed, bonded, and insured. To learn more, call 312-415-2657, or email DMuhling@TruBlueHouseCare.com or visit www.TruBlueHouseCare.com/Barrington.

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