

On the web - [www.rjconstructionmarion.net](http://www.rjconstructionmarion.net)  
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 Become our fan!



## What about contractors?

Know the law before you sign!

- A contractor should always be registered and insured. (Disaster rehab contractors also are to be certified with the City of Cedar Rapids)
- Why contractor registration?
  1. To ensure compliance with unemployment insurance & workers' compensation laws.
  2. To ensure that out-of-state contractors are registered and bonded.
  3. To make biographical contractors information available to the general public.

## Solar at the RJ & Sandylee Jordan Home, Marion Iowa

RJ and Sandylee's ranch style home in Marion might be a bit different than that of their neighbors, that is when you drive by you'll notice a large pole out front next to the front porch.

... What the heck is it?



It's a solar electric system!

It is an eight photovoltaic panel 1 KW (electric production per hour) Wacker Tracking unit. The Mitsubishi panels create

125W of electricity per hour each and are designed to be used in environments with extreme temperatures and harsh weather conditions.

These panels utilize polysilicon technology, are highly reliable, efficient and have a low environmental impact. Additionally the panels feature a 25-year limited warranty (power output) and are designed to deliver you trouble-free electricity for years to come. Plus they are Eco-friendly & lead free! Woohoo!



On the inside... The system consists of a DC disconnect, a Kaco 1501 Inverter and an AC disconnect.



RJ's estimated average production of 10KW (10 hours x 1 KW) per day will substitute for what they previously purchased from Alliant Energy! Their system will also permit an upgrade down the road.

### Another great solar power story!

Want more information on how you too can go Solar? Call or email RJ Construction! [rjconstruction@netins.net](mailto:rjconstruction@netins.net)

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### Ponder This...

"The pessimist complains about the wind;  
 the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails."

-William Arthur Ward (1921 - 1994)

**Hiring a contractor?** Don't forget to check the [Iowa Contractor Registration](http://www2.iwd.state.ia.us/contractor.nsf/MainPage) web page to verify that your contractor is registered with the State of Iowa Workforce Development. Not sure? You can check by searching for the business name on the web at <http://www2.iwd.state.ia.us/contractor.nsf/MainPage>. You can also email to [contractor.registration@iwd.iowa.gov](mailto:contractor.registration@iwd.iowa.gov) or call IWD toll-free @ (800) JOB-IOWA

**NHBA—Tips to Help Plan Your Fall Remodeling Projects.**

**Get the Most Out of your Remodeling Project!**

The NHBA (National Home Builders Association) recently posted some excellent remodeling project tips... read on.

1. Plan your project with a realistic budget. First create a plan, then seek out your estimates.

2. Quality materials; spend a little more, get a better product!

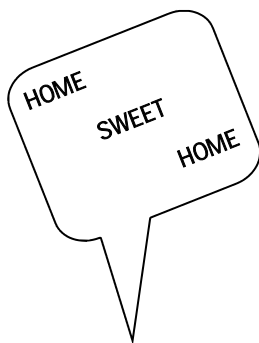
3. Consistent design; make sure the new project content is in harmony with the home.

4. Consider the neighborhood; current home value, what if you

sell? Rule is: DON'T overbuild!  
5. Check neighborhood & dept codes/restrictions; verify your project conforms!

6. Experience Matters! Check references for quality work!

**Check your contractors refs!**



**FLOOD REMODEL SPOTLIGHT: Annabelle Swick, Cedar Rapids Iowa**

As we know many Cedar Rapids homes were flooded and residents lost everything. For many the



clean up and rebuild still continues, for some it may never take place out of lack of funding or condemnation by the city.

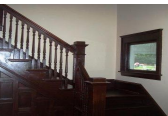
With that note we are honored to introduce Annabelle & Judy Swick's SW side home. It to was damaged by floodwaters. After the water receded they made a decision to rehab their home; that's when they called RJ Construction for an estimate. Since

then this house has underwent several

stages of remodel! The floors and walls were torn out. New flooring was laid and sheetrock hung with a fresh layer of paint brightening each room.



The Utility room now sports a wide walkway, awaiting it's final contents to be arranged.



New doors provide the means of entrance and exit to rooms within and on the exterior of the home.



In addition, new doors, cabinets, bathroom vanity, sinks, showers, and appliances add a crisp new look to this sweet home of a wonderful Cedar Rapids family.

RJ Construction says 'Welcome home' to the Swicks!



I-Renew 200 Energy & Sustainability Expo!

**Solar Power!**

**Coming Soon! 2009 I-Renew Energy & Sustainability Expo**

Coming Sept 12 & 13, the 18th Annual I-Renew Expo to be held in Norway Iowa at the Frontier Natural Products Co-op. We invite you to come out and browse this event! Don't miss it!

I-Renew has a mission to educate Iowan's on alternative energy. Founded in 1992, each year I-Renew sponsors an Expo at various locations around Eastern Iowa. We (RJ Construc-

tion) became a member in 2006 and have been an exhibitor every year! It's an exciting event! Our first Expo was (2006) at Solon High School in Solon Iowa. This was chosen as the event site because this new high school was built in 2002 using renewable energy technology! Geothermal, solar and other passive systems! RJ will be an exhibitor once again this year at the 2009 EXPO so come on out!

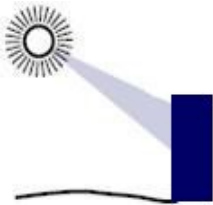
Learn about Solar Photovoltaic panels, solar hot water heating, and visit the many demonstrations by green vendors, plus explore Frontier Natural Products Co-op! Interested?

For more information regarding the event on the web go to: [www.irenuew.org/expo](http://www.irenuew.org/expo)

**We'll be there waiting for you!**

## PASSIVE SOLAR UNITS; WHAT CAN THEY DO FOR YOU?

Active Passive Heating Systems consist of a maintenance free collection unit where the interior element collects and stores heat from exposure to the sun.



This stored heat is then transferred from the interior of the unit and blown via a fan into a

specified location to assist in warming the temperature.

### HEAT STORAGE

Thermal mass (materials used to store heat) is an integral part of most passive solar system designs. Simple materials such as concrete, masonry, wall-board, and even water can be used to absorb heat on sunlit days. As the temperature drops



they can then slowly release stored heat. Combine air flow circulation methods (e.g. a fan powered by solar photovoltaic panels) and now your talking **FREE** heat! Passive Solar Unit fans can be powered via household current or self contained solar panels. This **free** heat is helping you to create a more comfortable living or working environment! Interested in learning how you benefit too?

Call RJ @ RJ Construction  
We provide free quotes!



## Spotlight—The New Klauer Residence, Energy Efficient Home

Mark & Dee Klauer picked a beautiful location in rural Anamosa for their new energy efficient home! The project: a 2400 sq ft home with exterior structure, 2 x 6 construction, R21 insulation in walls, a 3/4" R-board exterior with R6 rating creating a wall that is R27-R28.



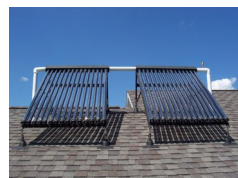
Roof insulation R55 with full roof ventilation.

A passive heat recovery system was incorporated into the one to three season porch design. A southern exposure for porch windows, patio doors and also two basement slider windows provides daylight and warmth.

Also included in the energy efficient project is a geothermal unit. This all electric unit contains two fifty gallon recovery tanks and a evacuated tube system (thirty tubes) creating 60,000 BTU's per day for domestic hot



water heat. The solar heat collectors are installed on the south-westerly roof top.



Being that the roof has a good southern exposure, solar photovoltaic panels of substantial size can easily be added in the future. The second story has pre-installed in-floor heating with PEX tubing.

The Klauer's also used hardwood & ceramic flooring through out the house and energy efficient appliances. Additionally they've opted to install storm shelters under the front porch and a wood burning stove for supplemental heat for the home.



We wish the Klauer's many enjoyable days ahead in their new energy efficient home!



Mark & Dee Klauer's  
New Energy Efficient Home



Visit us on the web  
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**Think REMODEL!**

We work for YOU!

## RJ Construction Alternative Energy Homeowner Remodeling Newsletters!

Welcome to Vol. 5 Issue 1 of the Homeowner Remodeling News! We are pleased to announce RJ Construction's semi-annual newsletter. We will be sending our newsletter to all of our customers. We hope to provide homeowners with current

- What-About's
- How-To's
- Tips
- Solutions
- News

Here at RJ Construction we are committed to providing you with quality home and commercial building services. Look to us for all of your siding, roofing, remodeling, solar heat and electric services too!

Call today for your free estimate!

Don't Miss this!

**I - Renew**

**EXPO 2009**

### MISSION STATEMENT

"To greatly enhance our customer's assets by providing quality construction services governed by use of integrity and respect in all dealings."



See us first for all your Remodeling, New Construction and now **SOLAR** needs too!

From all of us here at RJ Construction, we would like to wish you a safe and colorful Fall!