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*The Perfect Season
for Connected Windows
and More at
Lezzer Lumber*

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The Perfect Season for Connected Windows and More at Lezzer Lumber



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Mohnton location

By Kathy Hunt

One of the pleasures of a cool, summer day is to open your windows and let a breeze flow through your home. But what if you left your house shuttered when you headed off to work, or, worse still, your windows are too high or too old to use safely? Wouldn't it be fantastic to be able to open your out-of-reach or antiquated windows with the flip of a switch or tap of an app? Lezzer Lumber can make this, and other summertime wishes, come true. In business for nearly a century, the family-owned company has the knowledge and experience to help with practically any residential or commercial project.



With 15 retail locations in Allegheny, Berks, Butler, Chester, Lancaster, Lehigh, Indiana, Lycoming, Clearfield and Northampton counties, including new stores in Western Pennsylvania's Bethel Park, Valencia, and Zelienople, and Trinity Supply and Installation in Pittsburgh on the West Side, the company makes home improvements and commercial projects, including selecting and installing smart/connected windows and doors, easier.

Modern conveniences for an ancient invention

In some form or other, windows have existed for millennia, providing light during the day and protection at night, holding in warmth during cold times and welcoming in cool breezes when it was hot or smoky inside. Ancient people covered these openings with animal hides, reeds, and other materials, removing and re-installing the coverings as needed. Eventually, these rough holes in caves, huts, and other dwellings were replaced with glass-covered apertures. During the Middle Ages, European introduced the casement window, which swung outward,

followed in the late 1600s by the sash window, which raised upward. Like the rough-hewn openings before them, these windows were opened and closed by hand and with a great deal of physical effort.

We've come a long way since the time of hoisting out or up and propping open heavy panels of glass, lead weights, and wood. Now, Lezzer Lumber takes consumers even further. This spring, after partnering with family-owned, Minnesota-headquartered Marvin and Lancaster-base RMS (Residential Media Systems), Lezzer Lumber introduced a new, cutting-edge product to its customers — Marvin Connected Home windows and doors. Part of Marvin's Modern Collection, Connected Home gives customers the opportunity to schedule and remotely control the opening and closing of their automated awning and casement windows.

Gone are the nagging concerns about surprise rain showers and storms that soak window treatments and sills, walls, floors, and furniture. Marvin's smart windows can sense moisture and close themselves when rain starts to fall. Pretty nifty!

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Equally wonderful are Marvin's five options for connectivity. Marvin's automated windows and multi-slide door can be integrated into existing home automation systems, including Crestron® Home and Control4®, or voice assistants such as Amazon's Alexa. Download the Marvin Home app to your mobile phone and you can open, close, and view the lock status of windows and doors no matter where you are.

If it starts to rain, the Marvin Home app will alert you that moisture has been detected and, as a result, the windows and door are being shut. You will also be notified if an obstacle is encountered during the closing process. When the multi-slide door meets an obstruction, it stops moving. If the windows detect an object or interference, they attempt to close three times and then contact the homeowner, requesting information on how to proceed. Should your home lose power, the windows and doors close and lock automatically.

When you want a more hands-on approach, you can control the windows and doors with hard-wired wall switches. You can also operate them by pressing a button on the window itself. Both options are especially helpful if you lose your power or WiFi connection; windows can still be operated through their on-unit control buttons or optional wall switches.

"It's the ease of automation without the headaches of technology," said Kaethe Huber, manager of Lezzer Lumber's Reading-area store at 3171 Morgan Road in Mohnton. She added that the company also wanted "to bring in the Modern line because it's Marvin's newest line."



Ensuring customer comfort with home automation

Marvin has designed its Connected Home products so that, whatever your comfort level is with automated fixtures, you can live seamlessly and happily with these.

"We've had quite a few customers come and look at the connected Marvin Modern windows," Huber said. "The ease of using the window itself is very appealing. One application was for a window that was up really high. The homeowners wanted to be able to open the window, but there was no

way to access it from the ground. This is where being able to have an automated window that can open and close with an app or with a switch from the ground is really helpful. You can then get airflow from where you wouldn't normally be able to."

If someone is interested in learning more about Marvin Connected Home or home automation in general, Huber advised making an appointment to speak with a Lezzer Lumber employee and a Marvin representative and/or RMS salesperson. "After answering the customer's questions about Marvin Connected, a salesperson either will go out to the site, meet with the builder, and get measurements, or the builder will come in with the measurements," Huber said. "And if the customer doesn't have a builder, we can recommend one."

In addition to talking with experts, the customer can also investigate Marvin's automated windows and doors and RMS's home automation in Lezzer Lumber's showroom. There, they'll find a version of a tiny home that showcases Marvin Connected Home and RMS's automation services. RMS can link such systems as heating/cooling, intercom, lighting, camera, and doorbell to the internet and to each other. RMS also has its own electricians who can install Marvin Connected Home products.

Note that Marvin Connected Home is ideal for new construction but not necessarily the best fit for older buildings.

Depending on the window and door dimensions, electrical wiring, and other construction considerations, you may or may not be able to replace your current Marvin windows and doors with automated Marvin windows and doors. Keep in mind, too, that existing Marvin windows and doors cannot be retrofitted with Marvin Connected Home.

Summertime means savings time

Along with offering its customers the latest developments in home automation technology, Lezzer Lumber gives them the opportunity to save on summertime projects. Running through July 11, Lezzer Lumber's Red, White, and Build sale features discounts on decking, railings, roofing, siding, and other materials. Trex, which is known as the inventor and leader in composite decking, has deals on its Select, Enhance, and Transcend lines. All of Trex's decking is comprised of 95-percent recycled plastic film and reclaimed wood sawdust. Transcend has the added bonus of SunComfortable™ technology, a heat-mitigating system that keeps Transcend deck surfaces up to 35 degrees cooler than Trex's original decking boards.

A competitor to Trex, TimberTech has specials on several composite collections, specifically Prime painted-wood look, Prime+ woodgrain, and Terrain. All three contain approximately 85-percent recycled plastic. Also on sale are TimberTech's





Harvest, Landmark, and Vintage collections. These lines are 100 percent PVC (polyvinyl chloride) and engineered to reflect more sunlight, retain less heat, and cool down faster.

The advantages to composites and PVC are that they offer durability, longevity, and limited maintenance. Due to their high recycled-materials content, composites are likewise considered eco-friendly. For pricing on other Trex and Timber Tech products, visit, email, or call one of Lezzer Lumber's retail locations listed on its website, <https://www.lezzerlumber.com>.

Introduced in Lezzer Lumber's 2025 Outdoor Living campaign, BestPLUS plastic lumber is another product in the Red, White, and Build event. BestPLUS plastic lumber consists of 98-percent recycled plastic and is weather- and insect-resistant, and impervious to rot and decay. It can be used in a large number of ground-contact settings, including garden edging, raised garden beds, planters, walkways, hard-scaping, retaining walls, outdoor steps, fences, and posts, and on playgrounds and even in bocce courts. It also serves as a durable substitute for wood in benches, palettes, tables, and truck and trailer scuff boards.

BestPLUS has special pricing on the following plastic lumber: rounded, black, plastic landscape timber; two sizes of regular, black, plastic landscape timber; four sizes of black, plastic lumber; a black, plastic edging kit; and gray, plastic lumber forming/edging.

Also participating in the sales event is RDI Railing. It has lowered its prices on aluminum 6-foot and 8-foot black railing kits and Pelinore, Tristan, and Oberon top rails.



Additionally, there is a 15-percent discount on all RDI lighting while supplies last.

Various lengths and widths of treated lumber are also on sale. Unlike many big box stores, which carry grade #2 treated lumber, Lezzer Lumber sells grade #1, which means a stronger wood that possesses fewer knots and marks than grade #2. Lezzer Lumber does offer both #1 and #2 grades of treated lumber to serve all needs.

Thinking about replacing a window or door or sprucing up the exterior of your house? MI Windows and Doors offers 10-percent off select double-hung windows, patio doors, and in-stock fiberglass and steel doors. You can also take advantage of reduced prices on Westlake's Royal Estate and Royal Crest vinyl siding. Royal Estate comes in 12 shades and boasts that its siding will not warp, buckle, or sag. Royal Crest possesses a natural, wood-grain finish and five colors in stock. Both are avail-

able in double 4 dutchlap and double 5 dutchlap. Vinyl soffits, aluminum gutters measuring 16, 21, or 26 feet, and 10-foot downspouts, all in white, are on sale, too.

Prefer the look of stone over vinyl on the outside of your house? Evolve Stone is selling its 14 1/4 square-foot box of stone veneer for \$12.25 per square foot, or approximately \$174.56 per box. This stone veneer requires no mortar to install, just a nail gun to attach it to the wall. The discounted veneer comes in four colors and three patterns — four-inch high National True, two-inch high District True, and one and three-fourths-inch to 10-inch Georgetown Run.

Maybe a new roof is what you need. Atlas Roofing's Pinnacle Pristine and GAF's TimberlineHDZ shingles are both included in the Red, White, and Build sale. So, too, are such deck, railing, and other outdoor project essentials as round and square-tip shovels, hoes, rakes, tamping bars, post hole diggers, and a sidewalk edger.

Still more in store for residential and commercial customers

Along with its numerous product lines, Lezzer Lumber operates commercial door facilities in Lancaster, State College, and Williamsport. Moreover, it has a truss manufacturing plant that makes roof, floor, and custom trusses in Curwensville. Its Lancaster-based mill and trim shop creates such custom millwork as stock boards and molding profiles. Working with all wood species as well as PVC, the shop can craft the following custom items: cabinetry, libraries, and entertainment centers; fireplace mantels and surrounds; interior or exterior doors; entrance, window, and door trim; exterior rail, balusters, posts, and brackets; raised-panel wainscot; columns and ceiling beams; and straight or curved stairways with pre-fit rail and baluster.

For its commercial customers, Lezzer Lumber offers such services as contractor sales, commercial sales for developers and professional builders, and installed sales. Installed sales deal with complete framing packages for exterior doors and windows for new construction projects. They also cover the installation of siding, insulation, cabinets, countertops, decks, windows, and interior and exterior doors.

For additional information about Marvin Connected Home, the current Red, White, and Build sale, and other products, sales, and locations of Lezzer Lumber, or to follow the company on social media, please visit the website <https://www.lezzerlumber.com/>.

