

Timber Talk

A monthly newsletter for our customers



Carver Lumber in Peoria

An Employee Owned Company

Tremont Lumber in Tremont

309-692-2000

309-925-7731

OCTOBER 2017 *NEWSLETTER*

MATERIAL PRICING: The commodity lumber markets continue to move higher as mills hold on to order files extending into late October. With low field inventories and extensive rail and trucking issues being reported nationwide, look for higher pricing and limited availability to remain in place for the next several weeks at best. The panel markets also have extended order files at the mill level, which allows producers to continue raising prices. Availability is also a major issue for panels, with lean inventory at the wholesale level and mills pricing above print for any prompt shipping loads. As always, keep your bids current. If your material price quotes are more than a couple weeks old, protect yourself and get them re-quoted.

WINDOW CARE: Proper care of today's window glass systems is very important. Insulated glass systems, and those with Low-E or other heat deterrent additives can be damaged or lose their effectiveness through improper care. If possible, avoid washing windows in direct sunlight. Use a mixture of mild dish soap and water to gently clean the glass and rinse thoroughly with clean water and dry with a soft absorbent cloth to avoid spotting. Never use abrasive or caustic cleaners as they may damage the glass or the finish. Never use a high pressure spray to wash the windows as it may damage the insulating glass seal.

KEEP YOUR ESTIMATES CURRENT!!!: Even though we have been mentioning it for some time now, it could not be more important than it is today and the foreseeable future, to keep your estimates updated for current pricing. The increases in the composite costs for framing lumber and for structural panels in recent months is staggering- and it hasn't topped out yet. This coupled with availability issues for some products have pushed year over year and even week over week increases to numbers unprecedented in the past decade. Just look at what the recent composite numbers look like:

Composite Lumber (mill prices per mbf) :

Week of Sep 22	\$429
Week of Sep 15	\$421
A year ago	\$352

Composite Panel (mill prices per mbf) :

Week of Sep 22	\$521
Week of Sep 15	\$504
A year ago	\$383

This is not a Carver Lumber issue, or even a regional issue- this is national- everyone is affected, there is no work around to get better pricing- it all comes from the same source.