



What is a Builders Association Anyway?

Valley Home Builders Association (VHBA), part of a three-tiered organization working locally, at the state level and nationally, proudly works to provide and expand opportunities for all consumers to have safe, quality and affordable housing. Members of VHBA are also members of the Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

Approximately one-third of NAHB's 185,000+ members are home builders and/or remodelers. The remaining members are associates working in closely related fields within the housing industry such as mortgage finance and building products and services. VHBA has more than 725 member companies working in communities throughout the Fox Valley area.

NAHB, WBA and VHBA all serve members in a variety of ways, which in turn benefits consumers. Through education, including business management, customer service, construction techniques and more, the association strives to improve the business performance of members. By working with a builders association member, consumers know they are working with an individual and/or company committed to professional growth.

VHBA members have access to local, state and national resources for industry information, research and technical expertise. Through publications, trade shows, seminars and conferences, members have exposure to the latest building products and services. With these opportunities available to them, association members can provide value-added insights and cost-saving techniques to their customers.

Charitable efforts demonstrate members' commitment to their communities. For VHBA members, that means contributing to the VHBA Fund of the WBA Foundation to provide scholarships and tool grants to youth pursuing careers in construction related fields and grants to local housing-related charities.

The networks of builders associations across the country also strengthen their communities and the industry through workforce development efforts. From encouraging youth to choose housing-related careers to retraining displaced workers, association members know that a quality, professional workforce is essential.

From the federal to the local level, association members concentrate on balanced legislative, regulatory and judicial public policy. Guided by a vision of an America in which all citizens have access to housing of their choice and the opportunity to realize the American dream of homeownership, association members are dedicated to the prosperity of their industry and their communities.

So why do business with a member?

Membership in Valley Home Builders Association (VHBA) is a choice and one which requires the commitment of annual dues. The individuals and companies who join VHBA have sought out the services the association provides to help them maintain high standards in all aspects of their businesses.

Today's home building industry requires skilled craftspeople and knowledgeable professionals who are, at the same time, modern businessmen and women committed to quality and a solid code of ethics. Valley Home Builders Association helps these professionals in their challenge of wearing many hats and constantly staying abreast of the latest industry trends, new building technology, innovative financing plans, changes in state and local building codes and ordinances and much more.

You want to be confident that your builder, remodeler, contractor and suppliers are current on the things that are important to the success of your project. Members have a strong network of services from VHBA, WBA and NAHB that network provides education and training opportunities often unavailable to non-members.

You want experience on your side, too, and builder members of VHBA must have the State of Wisconsin's Dwelling Contractor Certification and Dwelling Contractor Qualifier Certification and complete additional education requirements before acceptance as builder members. Also, all new member applications are carefully reviewed and published for comment regarding reputation and ethical business practices.

In the unlikely event that a problem arises with your contractor that you are unable to resolve, you again benefit by working with an association member because additional avenues are open to you that would not be available otherwise. Valley Home Builders Association has a procedure for examining and resolving construction complaints between members and their customers and may be able to bring both sides together to reach an agreement with minimal expenditures of time and money.

Whether you are building a new home or improving the home you have, Valley Home Builders Association is on your side by encouraging in its members high standards for professionalism, the production of quality products and the practice of exceptional customer service.

Find a professional to help you with your housing needs by visiting www.vhba.com and clicking on "Find a Member." Here you will find a complete directory of current VHBA members, and you can search by company name or type of product/service.