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CENTURY 21. life@Home

REAL ESTATE NEWS THAT MATTERS TO YOU!



Why you may not want to wait on selling

Ninety-four thousand dollars. That was the average profit made when selling a home in 2021, as reported by the Motley Fool. It was a staggering 71% more than the pre-pandemic average. Now the question becomes: will 2022 be just as good for sellers?

While it's hard to say for sure, signs point to unlikely. So, if you've been waiting on selling, you may be letting your best opportunity pass you by.

Will 2022 be just as good for sellers as 2021? It's hard to say for sure, but signs point to unlikely.

Mortgage rates will keep climbing

The Federal Reserve has made it clear they plan on increasing interest rates. Their goal is to curb inflation, but increasing mortgage rates will be an inevitable side effect. Typically, when mortgage rates go up, demand goes down. And unprecedented demand (coupled with extremely tight inventory) is precisely what pushed profits to the moon last year.

Without the fear of missing out, or "FOMO" effect of record-low mortgages, it's hard to imagine 2022 coming anywhere close to 2021's average home sale profit.

Low inventory makes moving tough

It's important to acknowledge the reality that once a home is sold, the sellers still need a place to live. With so few houses currently on the market, all of which are also priced high, it makes sense why some sellers, otherwise highly motivated, have hesitated for so long. However, with no clear predictions on how far profits will decline in the coming months, the case remains extremely strong for selling now vs. later.



Getting over grass: 3 more eco-friendly lawn alternatives

A perfect patch of Kentucky Blue Grass has long been the pride and joy of many a homeowner. Nowadays, climate change and water shortages are leading many to seek alternatives to a resource-intensive grass-based lawn. Here are three eco-friendly grass alternatives to consider!

Native ground covers

"Ground cover" refers to a plant that grows thick and stays low, eliminating mowing while providing a lush carpet of green. You can choose native or non-native ground covers, but a native species comes with the bonus of supporting your local wildlife.

Artificial turf

Zero watering, zero fertilizers and zero weed killers. Artificial turf is ideal if you want a conventionally attractive lawn with no effort. Of course, artificial turf is made from synthetic materials that aren't eco-friendly. So consider buying recycled artificial turf to be more sustainable.

Ornamental grasses and sedges

This isn't so much an alternative to grass as an alternative way to think about grass. With ornamental grasses and sedges, you choose not to mow and instead enjoy watching them fully mature. These plants often grow in dense clumps, preventing erosion and nutrient loss from the soil.



How to choose a new sapling for Arbor Day

3 things to consider when choosing a sapling

1. **Size:** Ensure your sapling will have enough room once it's fully grown.
2. **Wishlist:** What do you want from your tree? Shade? Privacy? Apples?
3. **Climate:** Choose a species known to thrive in your area.

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