

YOUR GUIDE TO
ALL THINGS
HOME + LOCAL
THIS SPRING

Milwaukee SPRING GUIDE



HEY, I'M KATEE

Your go-to real estate agent in Milwaukee.

If you feel like you're DEFROSTING after a long winter and you're ready to embrace all things spring in Milwaukee, this is the guide for you. Let's tackle spring cleaning and enjoy spring in Milwaukee together!

Katee

LET'S GO!!



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See what's happening in the world of real estate in Milwaukee (and what steps to take if you're thinking about moving, too!)

SPRING CLEANING

Whole Home Refresh

- Dust Everything** – Use a microfiber cloth with a few drops of lemon or orange essential oil to wipe down surfaces, including baseboards, shelves, and vents.
- Deep Clean Windows** – Mix equal parts white vinegar and water in a spray bottle. Wipe with a lint-free cloth or newspaper for streak-free shine.
- Wash Window Screens** – Remove screens and scrub with a solution of dish soap, warm water, and a bit of vinegar. Rinse thoroughly.
- Freshen Air Vents** – Remove vent covers, vacuum inside, and wipe with a damp cloth soaked in vinegar and water. Add a few drops of eucalyptus oil for freshness.
- Shampoo Carpets & Rugs** – Sprinkle baking soda over carpets, let sit for 15 minutes, then vacuum. For stains, scrub with a mix of vinegar and warm water.

Kitchen Deep Clean

- Scrub the Sink & Garbage Disposal** – Pour ½ cup of baking soda followed by 1 cup of vinegar down the drain. Let it foam, then rinse with hot water.
- Clean Appliances** – Wipe down the microwave, fridge, oven, and dishwasher with a mix of vinegar and warm water. Add lemon essential oil for extra grease-cutting power.
- Degrease Cabinets & Backsplash** – Mix 1 part vinegar with 2 parts warm water and a dash of dish soap. Wipe cabinets and tile with a sponge.
- Deep Clean the Oven** – Make a paste with baking soda and water. Spread it inside the oven, let sit overnight, and wipe clean with a vinegar-soaked cloth.
- Disinfect Cutting Boards & Countertops** – Sprinkle salt on wooden cutting boards, scrub with half a lemon, and rinse. For stone countertops, use a mix of rubbing alcohol and water instead of vinegar.

SPRING CLEANING CONTINUED...

Bathroom Reset

- Scrub Grout & Tiles** – Make a paste with baking soda and water, apply to grout, let sit for 10 minutes, and scrub with an old toothbrush.
- Clean Showerheads & Faucets** – Fill a plastic bag with vinegar, tie it around the faucet or showerhead, and let soak overnight. Remove and rinse in the morning.
- Shine Mirrors & Fixtures** – Spray with a 50/50 mix of vinegar and water, then buff with a microfiber cloth.
- Freshen the Toilet** – Sprinkle baking soda inside the bowl, pour in vinegar, let fizz, then scrub and flush. Add a few drops of tea tree oil for extra disinfecting.
- Wash Shower Curtains & Bath Mats** – Toss in the washing machine with vinegar and baking soda for a deep clean.

Bedroom & Living Spaces

- Flip & Freshen Mattresses** – Sprinkle with baking soda and a few drops of lavender essential oil, let sit, then vacuum thoroughly.
- Wash Bedding & Pillows** – Add ½ cup of vinegar to the wash to break down buildup and remove odors.
- Declutter & Dust Closets** – Wipe shelves with a vinegar and water solution, then refresh with sachets of dried lavender or cedarwood.
- Disinfect Doorknobs & Light Switches** – Wipe down with a vinegar-water mix and a few drops of lemon or tea tree essential oil.
- Air Out the Home** – Open windows, diffuse citrus or lavender essential oils, and let fresh air circulate to remove stale odors.

DECLUTTERING CHECKLIST

1. Set a Decluttering Goal – Choose one area to start (e.g., toys, closets, kitchen) and set a realistic time frame to tackle it.

2. Create a Donation Box – Keep a bin in a central spot for items to donate as you go.

3. Use the 'Keep, Donate, Trash' Method – As you go through items, sort them into these three categories immediately.

4. Ask: "Would I Buy This Again?" – If not, it's probably time to let it go.

5. Start with Easy Wins – Begin with spaces like junk drawers, expired pantry items, or bathroom products for quick momentum.

6. Purge Broken or Unused Toys – If it's missing pieces, hasn't been played with in months, or no longer fits their age, donate or toss.

7. Rotate or Minimize Toys – Keep only a manageable selection out and store others to swap out later.

8. Edit Bookshelves – Remove torn books or those your kids have outgrown. Donate favorites to a local library or school.

9. Declutter Kids' Clothes – Toss stained, ripped items and donate those they've outgrown. Keep a small bin for sentimental pieces.

10. Tame the Artwork Pile – Keep a few special pieces in a memory box, take photos of the rest, and recycle what's unnecessary.

11. Clear Out Your Closet – If it doesn't fit, you don't love it, or you haven't worn it in a year, donate it!

12. Simplify the Linen Closet – Keep only two sets of sheets per bed and get rid of stained or mismatched linens.

13. Minimize Bags & Purses – Keep the ones you love and donate extras that are collecting dust.

14. Organize Seasonal & Holiday Décor – If you haven't used it in years, it's time to pass it on.

15. Toss Expired Food & Spices – Check expiration dates and get rid of old items you no longer use.

16. Streamline Kitchen Gadgets – If you haven't used it in the past year (hello, fondue set!), donate it.

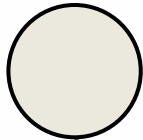
17. Match Lids to Containers – Get rid of lidless containers and mismatched water bottles.

18. Clear Out the Junk Drawer – Keep only essentials (scissors, tape, batteries) and remove random clutter.

19. Digitize Paper Clutter – Scan and store important documents digitally; recycle outdated paperwork.

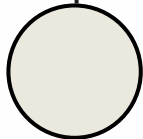
20. Establish an Ongoing Decluttering System – Make decluttering a habit by setting a monthly mini-cleanout session for problem areas.

MILWAUKEE DONATION *Guide*



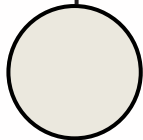
DONATE CLOTHES

Father Gene's Help Center is an awesome place to donate unwanted clothes. They provide free clothing to the greater Milwaukee community with the goal of promoting dignity and hope in the community.



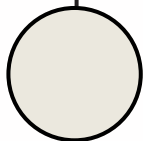
DONATE TOYS + HOME GOODS

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store accepts gently used toys and household items. Donations accepted daily from 9a-6p. With three locations, it's easy to swing on thru!



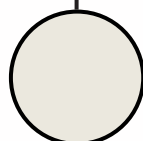
DONATE FOOD

MHVI (Milwaukee Homeless Veteran's Initiative) is always looking for nonperishable food donations. They serve 25-30 veterans per day in need of emergency food supply
<https://www.wisconsinvets.org>



TRASH+ RECYCLABLES

Each municipality has their own designated drop sites for trash and recycling. Most require a valid drivers license showing that municipality to enter - hours are usually limited, so check ahead of time!



DONATE ELECTRONICS + OVERSIZED ITEMS

Habitat for Humanity ReStore is a fantastic organization accepting donations for larger items and functioning electronics.
<https://milwaukeerestore.org/donate/items-we-accept/>

SPRING IN MILWAUKEE

Can't miss Events



ART IN BLOOM

This annual event is not to be missed! For four days, the art museum galleries come alive with floral arrangements inspired by favorite works of art. Grab your tickets early!
4/16-4/19



MAKERS MARKET

You've got 2 chances to hit the makers markets this Spring!
4/12 - Discovery World
5/17 - The Ivy House
<https://www.milwaukeemakersmarket.com>



FREE BOOK SWAPS

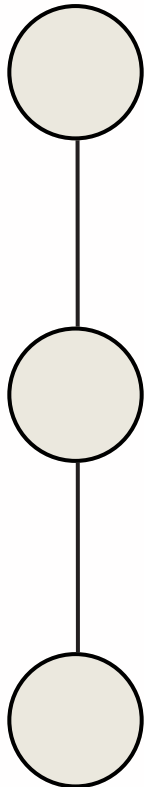
Deadbird Brewing has a monthly FREE book swap! Bring a book, take a book and grab a pint! (or NA option).
Upcoming dates:
12:00p-3:00p 4/19, 5/17



FARMERS MARKET

West Allis Farmers market is back in action starting in May! You can swing by Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays for seasonal produce, local brews, food trucks and more.
<https://visitstallis.com/events/west-allis-farmers-market/> ,

MILWAUKEE GARAGE SALES



BAYVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD

Saturday May 16th

<https://bayviewneighborhood.org/page-1863514>

TOSA EAST TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

Saturday June 6th

8am - 3pm

ST. JOSEPH'S ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

- June 18: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
- June 19: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
- June 20: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



MILWAUKEE LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE CHALLENGE



TAKE A BFF WALK

Enjoy the sunshine and the tulips at the Boerner Botanical Gardens

ICED COFFEES FROM LOCAL SHOP

Perfect for on the go or for a mini work session in one of the corner booths. My fave? Vennture

RE-READ YOUR FAVORITE BOOK

...but read it somewhere new! The park, a coffee shop, the library...

GIVE ONE CORNER OF YOUR HOME A REFRESH

A new piece of art, a lamp, and a cozy throw pillow is usually all you need!

ATTEND THE FARMER'S MARKET

...and if you get there before I do, save a bouquet of zinnias for me!

SPRING MARKET

Buyers

The biggest key to success in the Milwaukee Spring market is being prepared. Choosing your agent, talking with a lender, and coming up with a personalized plan with your agent will put you in the driver's seat and help you find a home you love (and not lose out on it because you were unprepared!)

Sellers

The sellers that will see the most success in the spring market are the ones who understand selling their home involves a lot more work than putting a sign in the yard. Prepping your home, making a personalized moving plan with your agent, and pricing your home competitively will ensure you walk away from your sale the most happy.

AVERAGE DAYS ON MARKET: 18

AVERAGE SALE PRICE: \$425,000

AVERAGE # OF SHOWINGS: 15



Want more? NEXT STEPS

Did this spring guide leave you wanting more? I got you! Learn about other resources I have for you and the best way to work with me (even if you're not buying or selling just yet!)

LOCAL GUIDE

Want to know more about life in Milwaukee? [Click](#) for my free Local Guide!

SCHEDULE MINI CONSULT

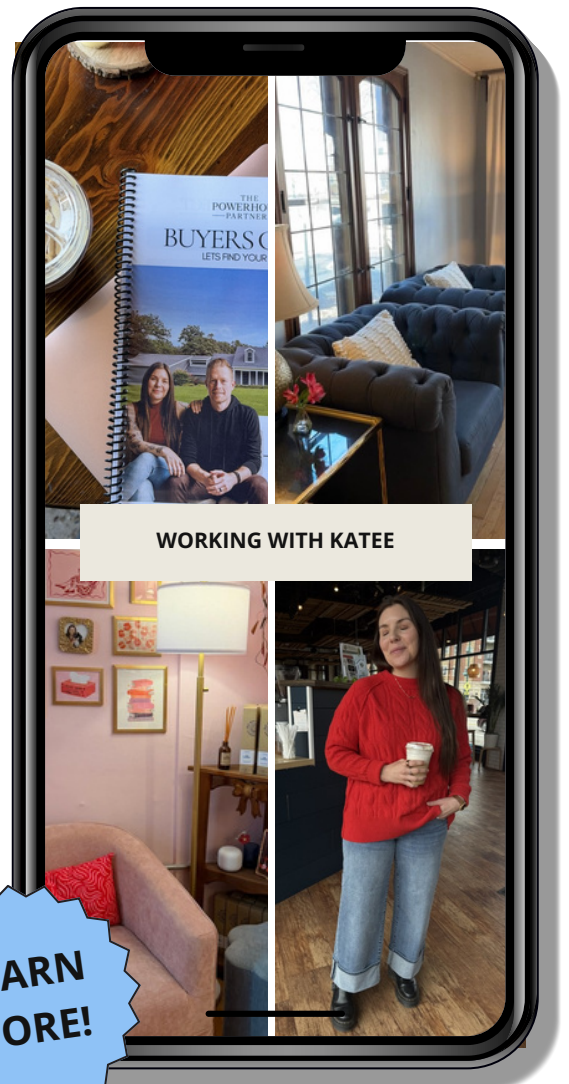
Want to talk to me about moving (even if it's not right now?) [Click to schedule](#) a mini client consult on Zoom!

HOME BUYER GUIDE

Serious about buying soon? Grab my free [Home Buyer Guide](#)!

HOME SELLER GUIDE

Ready to sell but not sure where to begin? [Click](#) for your next steps!



WORKING WITH KATEE

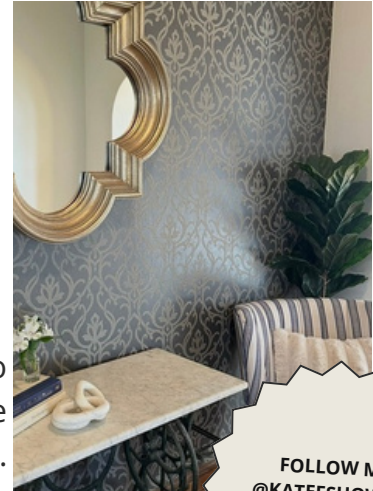
LEARN
MORE!

Before you go...

ABOUT ME



I'm **Katee**, your go-to real estate agent in Milwaukee.

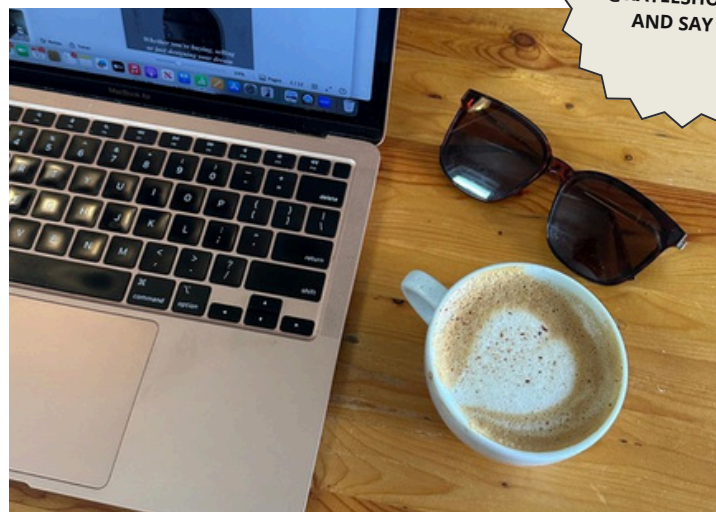


I love selling houses, but I also love reading and coffee in the morning.

FOLLOW ME
@KATEESHOWERS
AND SAY HI!

My ideal weekend includes *walking with my pup to a local coffee shop*, *date nights with my husband*, and *Modern Family marathons.*

A hill I'll die on: social media is meant to be SOCIAL, not salesy, so I share a lot of behind the scenes on IG @kateeshowers.



I'm obsessed with Milwaukee and all things home and local.

If you see me around town, please say hey!