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## Aging in Place

### Tips for 'Baby Boomers' in preparing home for changes

As baby boomers reach the golden years, they will need homes that will accommodate their physical challenges such as bad knees, working from home and taking on grandchildren.

Here are some tips on how to design and remodel your home to meet your needs today and in the future:

- **Don't wait until the last minute:**  
If you intend to live in your home into your 60s, 70s and 80s, don't wait until health challenges force you to make changes to your home. Instead, create a plan that can be implemented over time to spread the costs of your remodeling investment.
- **Get an expert:**  
Seek out licensed builders and remodelers. Licensed builders and remodelers are knowledgeable in building and remodeling homes that could meet the needs of aging baby boomers.
- **Plan for one-level living:**  
As you remodel your home, create a plan so that everything you need is on one floor and easily accessible. This includes a bedroom, a bathroom with shower, washer and dryer, kitchen and dining area, and access to technology (TV, computer and phone).
- **Low-maintenance:**  
High maintenance projects, like painting a home, cleaning the exterior side of windows, or sealing cracks and seams in your siding are physically challenging and time-consuming. When remodeling your home use low maintenance products.
- **Zero-step entry:**  
Whether you're maneuvering a stroller through the front door, carrying a load of groceries, or navigating a wheelchair, invest in a new, wider front door system. Consider a low-maintenance fiberglass door frame, door and lever-type handle (not door knob) for easier entry.
- **Task lighting:**  
Add more lighting for close-up tasks such as cooking, reading, hobbies and working from home. Utilize LED lighting to minimize utility fees.

- **Remodel the bathroom:**

Create a ground-level bathroom for guest of any age by installing a zero-entry threshold shower base, a handheld showerhead and shower grab bars. Don't forget to give the shower a non-skid floor treatment and to add anti-scalding protection to the sink and shower.

Prior to remodeling your home please contact the city's building inspections department to verify whether or not a building permit is required.

Contact the Peachtree Corners Building Department at 470-395-7027.