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WHY CRAWL SPACES MATTER MORE THAN EVER

By Matt Blaise, Operations Manager, LiveGreen

Editor's Note: Construction Business Review readers need practical perspectives that reveal how overlooked elements of building design can influence safety, efficiency and long-term property performance. This viewpoint provides builders, contractors and industry professionals with valuable insight into improving construction decisions through greater attention to foundational systems and structural details.



Matt Blaise

Choosing the Right Solution

The scope of work for repair under a home is fairly simple to assess. Every home on a crawl space can benefit from added efficiency and protection against moisture from doing a sealed and conditioned crawl space. Those in need of a smaller repair would be those that have already had measures taken to control these things. Crawl spaces that already have dehumidification and vapor barriers will not need as much work done to get them fully sealed and conditioned.

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A crawl space may be out of sight, but it has a lasting impact on a home's health, efficiency and comfort.

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Turning a Market Need into a Mission

We were inspired to create healthier, more energy efficient homes when we noticed a market need. Many homes in our area had the problem of inefficiency and high moisture under the home. A green building group put on a seminar locally explaining the science and benefits of sealed and conditioned crawl spaces that our founder attended. It made sense and seemed to be a perfect answer to what so many homes in our area needed so we decided to pioneer it and market it.

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

The homeowners who don't realize how much the crawl space can affect the whole home's environment tend to overlook it because it's out of sight and out of mind. The average homeowner spends little to no time underneath their homes and instead rely on other trades that may need to work down there to report any issues. This can allow small problems to accumulate into large ones without attention.

The Shift Toward Smarter Homes

The expectation for clean and efficient homes has continued to rise especially in regards to new builds. As homeowners and prospective buyers become more educated on good building practices, having things such as high efficiency mechanical equipment and crawl space encapsulation is becoming more expected as a standard practice instead of an upgrade.

Protect before Problems Grow

We want to continue to educate homeowners that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure when it comes to healthy and efficient home environments. It is more cost effective to get ahead of problems than it is to have a reactive approach. Having a sealed and conditioned crawl can give homeowners a peace of mind when it comes to the environment in their home. 