



Home Maintenance - Crawl Spaces

Introduction

People forget about their crawl spaces. The problem with that is the crawl space is an important part of the home as a system. Most crawl spaces have a dirt floor which makes them a perfect place for water to get into the home. Water infiltration from under the home can slowly destroy the building from the ground up.

Unchecked water vapour released from the soil will damage structural elements, wiring, pipes, ducts, and the insulation. It can also lead to heavy allergens being released into the air in your home.

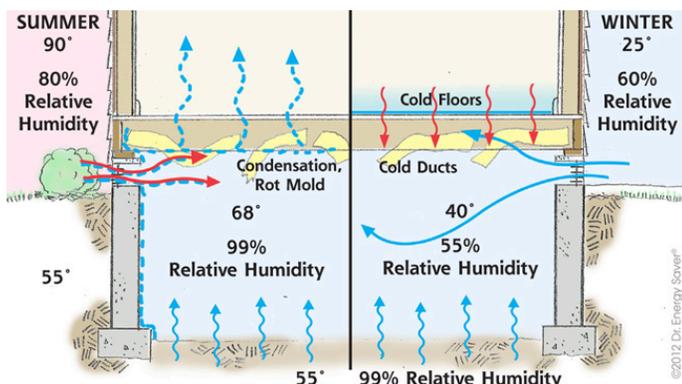
The good news is that these issues can be avoided by properly installing insulation and vapour barrier.

Warm air also rises through floor, wall and roof assemblies. These 3 facts mean that there is always water vapour moving through your home.

Most of the time water vapour moves through your home and does not cause any issues, as long as the proper building and maintenance precautions are in place.



These images are of what an unprotected crawl space looks like left on its own.



The Science

There are few things that should be understood from science class in order to make sense of why insulation and moisture protection in the crawl space is important. There is always some moisture in soil. Warm air is able to carry more water vapour than cool air.

