

**Indoor Air Quality in New Maine Homes:**  
**KEEPING FOUNDATIONS WARM AND DRY**  
**(Prevent Moisture Damage, Mold Growth and Radon)**

**ABOUT THIS PROGRAM:**

Proper site work and foundation construction are as critical to the overall quality and healthfulness of a home as the building shell that is constructed above grade. As a result, a builder's job begins **before** the very first shovel full of dirt comes out of the ground, **not after** the foundation is completed. The physical processes at work below grade--processes related to temperature, water, moisture, and air--can cause a variety of problems that not only affect occupant health, but may also compromise the building structure. And, mistakes made in site drainage and foundation construction are the most difficult and costly to fix. External factors further highlight the need for the program: reduced insurance coverage for mold and moisture related claims; high asthma rates; high radon contamination rates; increasing consumer awareness of the health and safety issues of indoor environments; and client dissatisfaction that can lead to litigation.

This program will educate residential contractors on the construction practices that can minimize the risk of indoor air quality (IAQ) problems in new homes. The program will provide a general overview of indoor air quality issues that occur in new home construction, followed by an extensive exploration of specific construction techniques that keep foundations warm, dry, and pollutant-free. The program will include discussion of available products and product costs, as well as briefly address the relationship between IAQ construction practices and the new Maine Model Building Code (IRC) and other building resources. Attendees will have plenty of opportunity to explore and discuss the concepts presented at the program.

**TOPICS:**

- ◆ Construction practices that save you and your client money **and** improve indoor air quality
- ◆ The range of indoor air quality problems that can occur in new homes
- ◆ The physical processes at work below grade in new homes
- ◆ How damp basements can affect the building and building systems' integrity
- ◆ How damp basements create risk to occupant health
- ◆ The challenge of building warm and dry basements in Maine
- ◆ How warm and dry basements improve energy efficiency
- ◆ Tips for avoiding litigation due to radon and mold
- ◆ IAQ issues related to remodeling, additions and basement buildouts.

**ABOUT THE TRAINER, WILLIAM A. TURNER**

Bill Turner is the president of Turner Building Science, LLC, and has 20 years' experience in the development and implementation of indoor air quality standards, diagnostic testing and remediation, industrial hygiene instruments, survey administration, air monitoring data collection, quality assurance, data validation, and technical report preparation. Turner Building Science has assembled a training development team for this program that includes engineers, architects, excavators and home builders - all who have been working and building in Maine for over 25 years. Bill's presentation provides real world guidance that will help builders avoid a variety of indoor environmental problems and reduce the number of call backs related to foundation moisture.

---

**This program has been made possible through a collaborative effort of the**  
**Maine Indoor Air Quality Council and the**  
**Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Maine**  
**with funding support from the**  
**National Housing Endowment, Efficiency Maine,**  
**The Maine Radiation Control Program and**  
**Dow Styrofoam**



Home Builders And  
Remodelers  
Association of Maine

