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Encapsulated, Sealed & Closed CrawlSpace Installation Manual



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www.YourCrawlSpace.com

Introduction

Congratulations on your decision to install the most advanced and simplest crawlspace encapsulation system available. Creating a closed crawlspace is one of the smartest decisions a homeowner can make to help conserve energy, preserve value, and maintain a healthy living environment in a home. We at Your Crawlspace stand behind our product and system and are confident that you will be extremely satisfied with the final results.

CAUTION: *If you're familiar with crawlspace encapsulations or sealed vapor barriers please follow our procedures and don't use past techniques to attach our system to the foundation wall.*

PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE INSTRUCTIONS. *Not only will drilling holes or using mechanical fasteners damage the foundation wall, they will compromise the effectiveness of the Crawl Curtain. If used as instructed, our system will save hours of labor costs, easier on installers, and performs better than any other system. These installation instructions have been extensively tested in the laboratory and in thousands of homes nationwide.*

YCS Wall and Pier Adhesives

The Your Crawlspace Magic Sealant / Adhesive is VOC Compliant and works on almost all foundation walls in any condition. The adhesive will attached to metal, brick, wood, stone, block, dirty, wet, dry, even over spiderwebs. Consider a test spot if concerned your foundation may not receive the adhesive. Please contact YCS with any questions.

Building Code Compliance

Due to local building code variations, home owners are responsible to verify and comply with all local codes and requirements. If there are any questions or concerns with the structure, or any of the systems in your home a professional foundation contractor should be consulted.

If you have a pest control contract, we also recommend consulting your company to be certain they approve the system. Some companies require a treatment before installation and a wider inspection strip than the building code. The Your Crawlspace system complies with the International Construction Code.

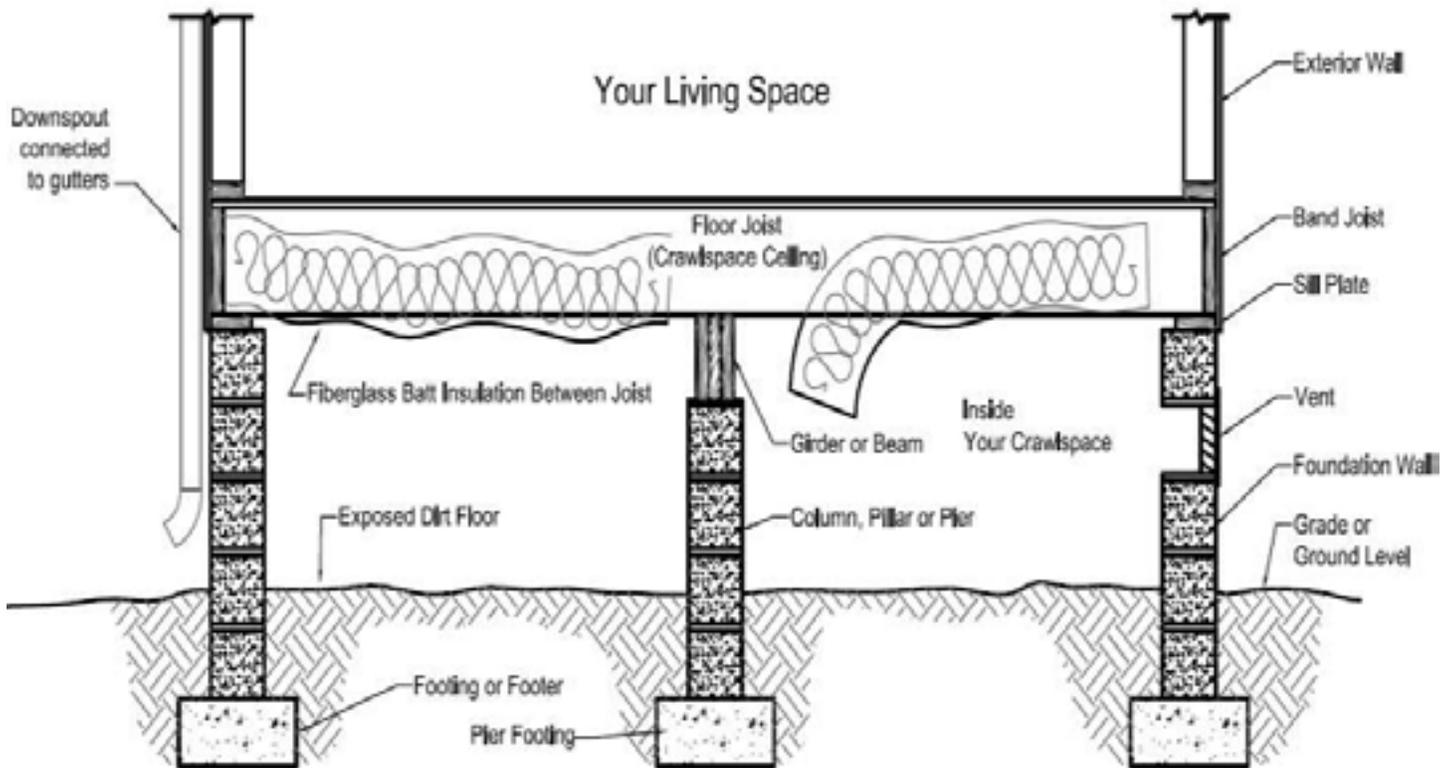
Certification and Training

For certification and training on the YCS System please contact us. We can come to your location or we offer regular training one day classes in our Mt. Pleasant location.

Step 1 - Get To Know Your Crawlspace

Before we get into the installation, let's review some of the more common terms for parts of the crawlspace. By being familiar with these terms, you will have a clearer understanding of the installation process:

(See instructional videos at YourCrawlspace.com)



Step 2 - Initial Crawl Space Inspection

Prior to installing any new materials, an assessment of the crawlspace should be done to determine the extent of preparation involved. By checking this list beforehand, you can be sure your crawlspace will be a safe place to work.

The following is a check list of things to look out:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for adequate access to the crawlspace | <input type="checkbox"/> Note water supply piping locations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Debris in space (garbage, old building materials, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for plumbing drain leaks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for Insects (termites, wasps, bees, etc.)
<i>May need to treat for pests before install.</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for sump pumps & condensation pumps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Look for animals or other critters (rodents, snakes, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Verify ductwork condition and locations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for pooled water on ground | <input type="checkbox"/> Note air handlers and fan locations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for wet or damp ground in the crawlspace | <input type="checkbox"/> Note foundation vents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Note levelness of dirt in crawlspace | <input type="checkbox"/> Note wiring and other electrical devices |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crawlspace Insulation (fiberglass, foam) | <input type="checkbox"/> Check for adequate lighting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check wood joists & framing condition | <input type="checkbox"/> Check exterior drainage around house |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Verify column & support locations | <input type="checkbox"/> Gutters and downspouts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Note drain & vent piping locations | <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that water is directed away from the foundation |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Is there a gas operated system in the crawlspace?
<i>*Must be vented properly.</i> |

If any of the items on the check list are problem areas, they need to be either removed or repaired as required.

For example, if there is standing water in the crawlspace, then that water needs to be either pumped or siphoned out and the low area filled in with dirt so water will not accumulate there. You may consider a sump pump.

We want to make sure that the crawlspace is a safe place to work, so if there are any damaged wires, duct work, or broken plumbing, please make repairs as required to meet your local code. If there are items in question, please consult with a building official or a construction professional.

Step 3 - Check that your crawlspace access panels or doors are large enough to easily enter and exit the crawlspace. It is recommended that the door is at least 4" higher than exterior grade and that the door is made of a non-corroding material. Use foam weather striping or other means to seal the door air tight when closed and provide a positive means to hold the door closed such as hasps and latches.

Step 4 - Ensure that all debris, including wood, cans, tires, bottles, masonry block, bricks, large rocks, sharp objects and any thing else that will hold water, attract critters or possibly cause a material puncture is removed. Consider the YCS 38 mil padded vapor barrier for wet or rough areas. (See instructional videos at YourCrawlspace.com)

Step 5 - Provide adequate light to do installation. Two strings of six bulb lights work best. 15 min setup.

Step 6 - Inspect top 3 to 12 inches of Inside of foundation walls and other support structures a to make sure it will receive the adhesive. Consider testing a spot if in question.

Step 7 - Cracks at sill plate and bottom joist must be sealed air tight. YCS Magic Sealant / Adhesive is recommended for gaps from 0" to 1/4". Spray expanding foam should be used for gaps wider than 1/4".

Step 8 - Ensure that a minimum 3" wide* termite inspection gap is clearly visible around top perimeter of foundation wall. If evidence of termite or other pests are found, be sure to remedy the situation before going further with the installation. If you have a pest management professional, check with them to ensure that the crawlspace encapsulation system does not interfere with their system or warranty if applicable. *May consider larger inspection area (3" to 12") depending on termite activity in your area.



3" Termite Inspection Gap

Step 9 - Foundation vents and other exterior wall penetrations must be sealed air tight. This is accomplished by using 2" rigid foam insulation cut to fit snugly in the interior side of the vent opening. The foam can be held in place by adhesive. Use expanding foam or caulk to seal any other openings and cracks to the outside. Please contact YCS if you are in a flood zone. Our FEMA approved vents may help with flood ins.

Step 10 - Check that all appliance discharge pipes and ducts from kitchen, baths, laundry items and indoor air handler condensate drains terminate outside the crawlspace and to the exterior of the building.

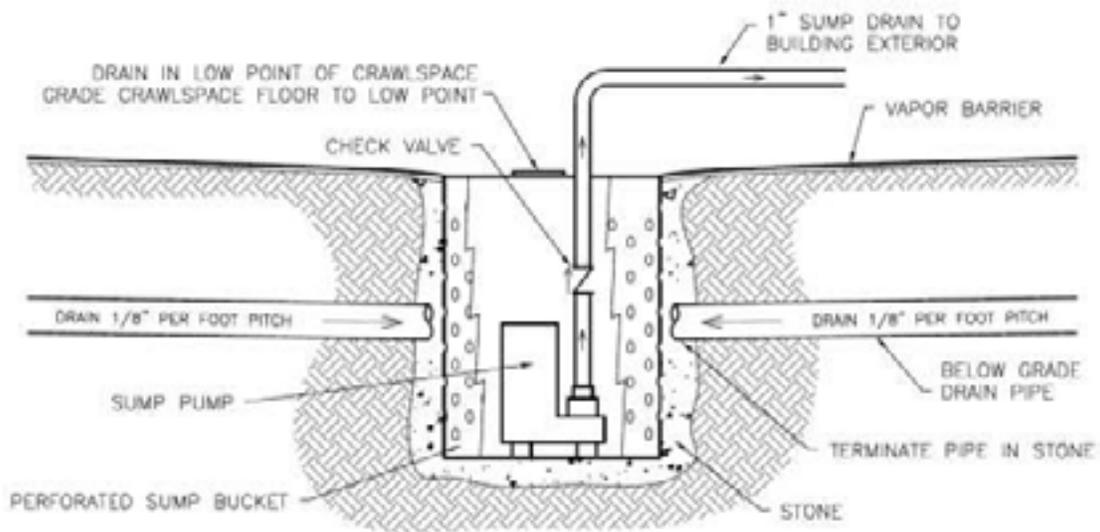
Step 11 - Crawlspace soil should be leveled and crowned to eliminate the possibility of standing water. Smooth soil to prevent hills and valleys. Grade crawlspace floor to one or more low points. Provide drains or sumps at the lowest points if necessary. Slope all drain piping to daylight. Crawlspace drains should not be connected to foundation or gutter drains.



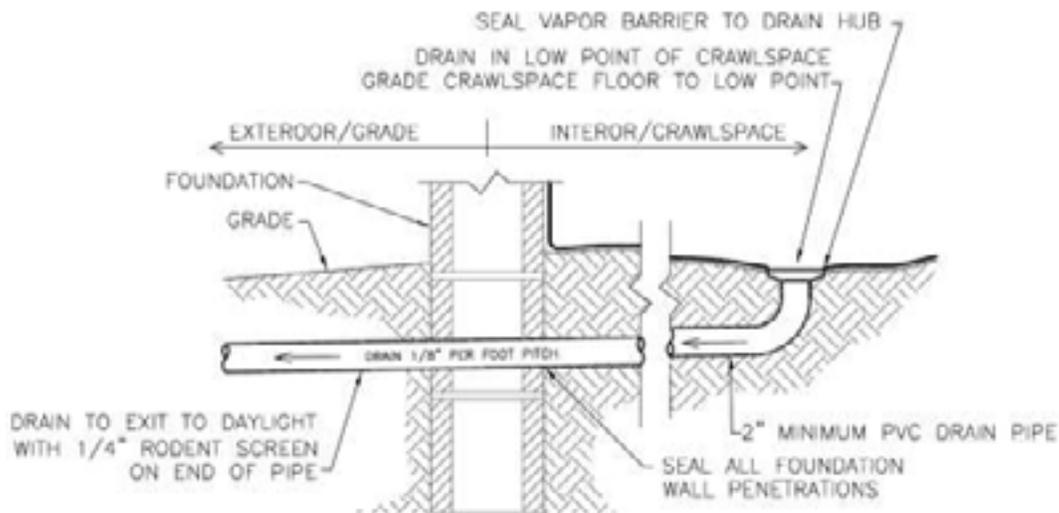
Clean Crawlspace Floor

Step 12 - Moisture Control Measures - some of these suggestions will not apply to all installations, but each must be take into consideration and addressed if they apply to your home.

- Ensure that slope of exterior finished grade is away from the building. Provide a method to transport roof runoff away from the house, such as gutters and down spouts.
- Exterior of foundation wall surfaces should be water proofed when the crawlspace is located below exterior grade.
- If required, provide drainage from under the vapor barrier to the outside with a sump pump system.



- If the crawlspace elevation is above grade, provide a floor drain in low point of floor.

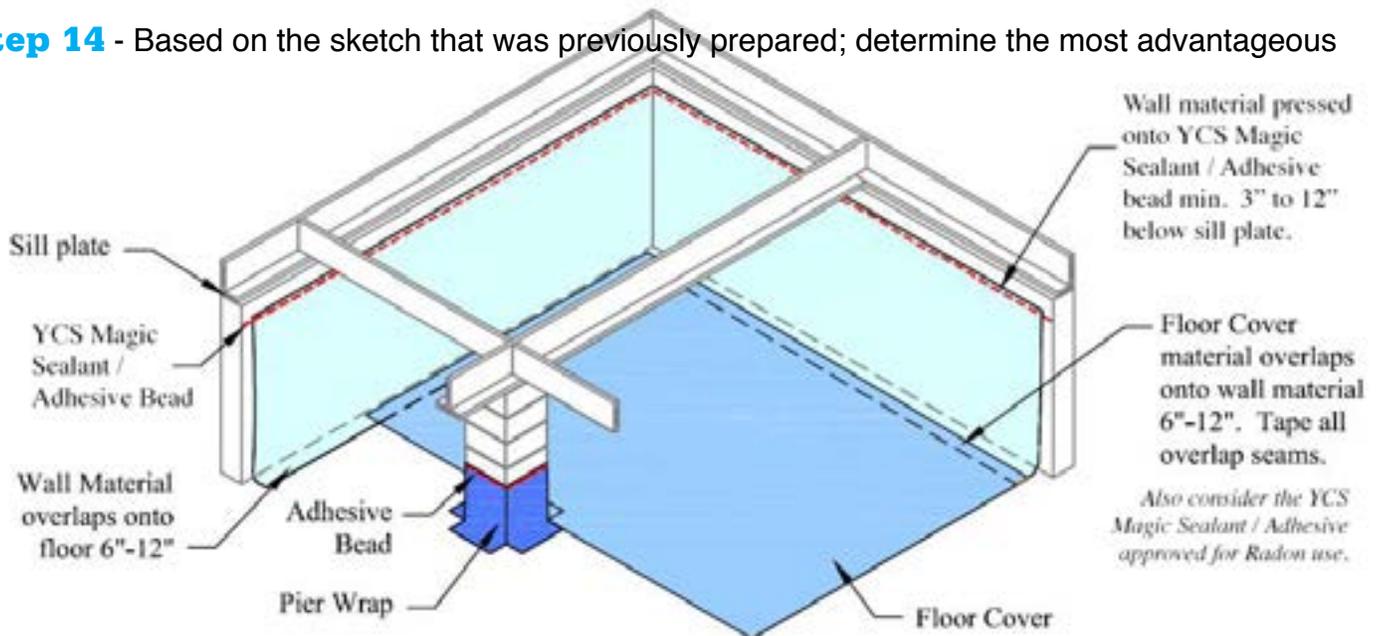


- Provide flood vents when required by local code that will minimize air flow.
- Spray mold and mildew treatments to trouble areas and below floors of bathrooms or other areas where there is the possibility of leaks.

Step 13 - Prepare an accurate sketch based on measurements inside the crawlspace. Take note of all item locations that will need to penetrate the material, such as supports and pipes.

(See YCS Wall Attachment Tap instructional videos at YourCrawlspace.com)

Step 14 - Based on the sketch that was previously prepared; determine the most advantageous



way to orientate the material to minimize cutting and joints. Always cut material to provide a minimum 6" overlap. Pre-cut material for installation around columns and piers.

NOTE: (See YCS Wall Attachment Tape System instructional videos at YourCrawlspace.com) Only one side of the wall and pier curtain will adhere to a concrete, stone, brick or steel foundation all or support pier. Our patented material is 100% plastic coated on one side. No adhesive will attach to this side of the material, to the wall, or pier. The other side is completely coated except for a two in strip at the top. The light blue side with the activation strip goes against the wall and pier. Be sure that the fibrous activation strip is on the wall side of the material.



Step 15 - Install material around all columns and piers. Material must be a minimum of 12' up piers. Use adhesive around perimeter of the column or pier and use vinyl tape to seal the seam. Apply adhesive with a bead that is approximately 3/16" of an inch in diameter. See Photos on Pages 8 and 9 for an illustration of a properly wrapped pier.

Step 16 - Install the wall material up the foundation wall, stopping 3” to 12” inches from sill plate. (If using wall insulation, leave material a minimum 4” from top of sill plate). Use a 3/16 inch bead of YCS Magic Sealant / Adhesive around the top perimeter of the foundation wall. Use the YCS Seam Tape, or YCS Magic Sealant / Adhesive for vapor barrier seaming. YCS Seam Tape will NOT work on the foundation wall. If your liner gets wet the tape will not adhere properly.

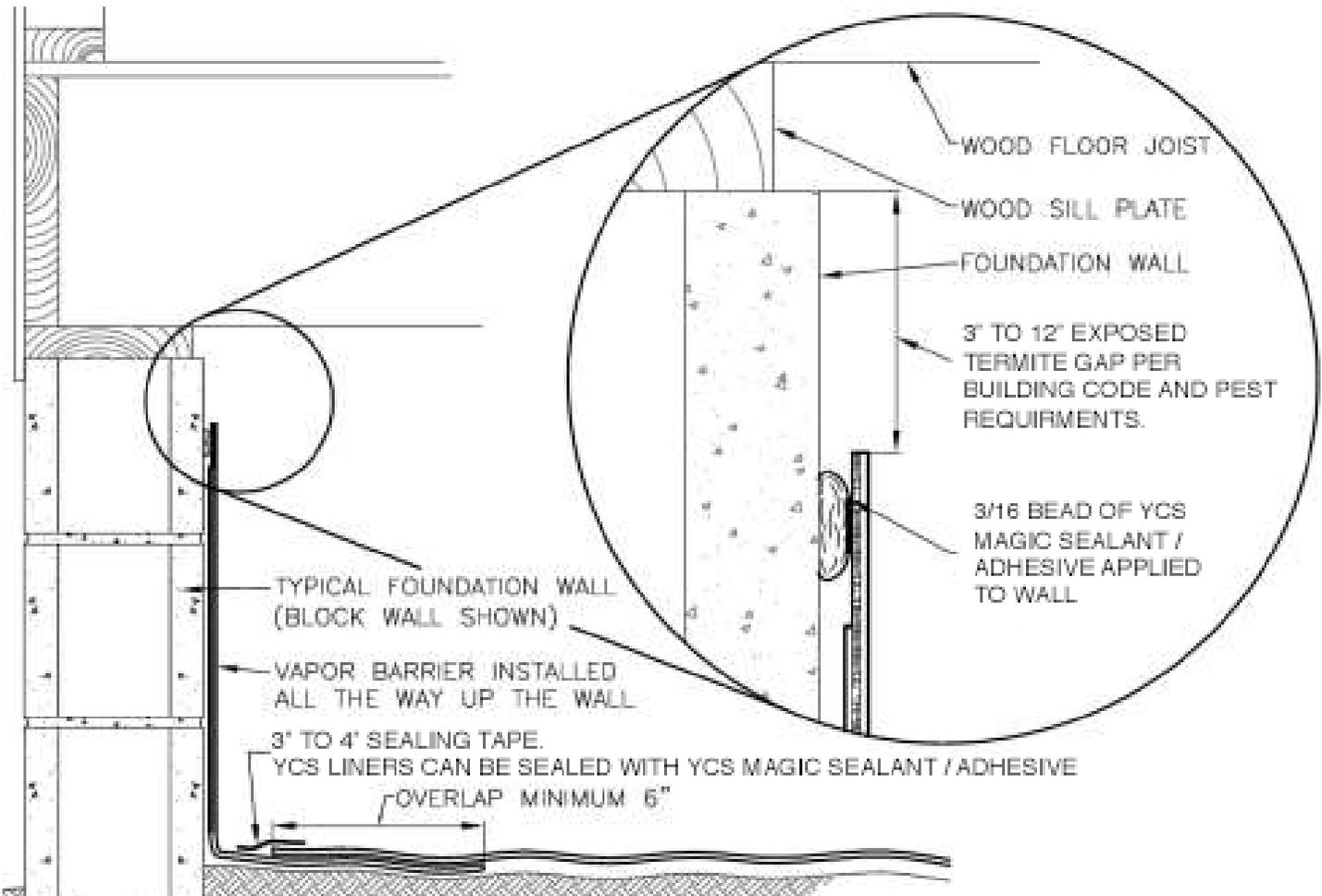


Applying the adhesive bead



Applying the wall material

This step is best accomplished by two workers. As one worker applies the adhesive bead near the top of the foundation wall, the second worker follows, pressing the wall material's adhesive sensitive strip into the adhesive bead with his fingertips. Please press the liner completely into the YCS Magic Sealant / Adhesive.



Installing the Floor Material Around a Pier.

Step 17 - Begin floor installation at furthest point from crawlspace access door. Pieces of floor material should be lapped a minimum of six inches. All lap joints are sealed with the YCS Poly Seam Tape or YCS Magic Sealant / Adhesive. Ground cover should be applied so as to minimize ripples, wrinkles or stress on the material. Final installation should appear flat.

Note how the pier material is cut and wrapped. A finished pier ready for taping.



Step 18 - Insulate band joist with minimum R13 fiberglass batt insulation or per your local code. Putting insulation in the rim joist is very important.

Step 19 - Install a dehumidifier. Ensure that dehumidifier has a way to drain condensate water to exterior of crawlspace. This can be achieved by either gravity or a condensate pump. In lieu of a dehumidifier, a small (4" to 6") supply vent can be added to existing HVAC ductwork if ductwork is readily available. The Department of Energy and the EPA recommend an air-flow of one cubic foot per minute (1 CFM) for every 50 square feet of crawlspace area. Most areas will need to have a dehumidifier for several months out of the year because we use very little conditioning.

Step 20 - Install remote humidity monitor.



A job well done!

*It is always a good idea to exhaust air or put negative air pressure on the crawlspace while installing the system. This will help with dirt, dust, and mildew from entering the home.

By following the YCS System you will have a properly sealed crawlspace that takes less time to install, that is safe for the homeowner and the installers. SAFE. SIMPLE. SEALED.

Alternative crawlspace insulation technique:

1) You can use floor insulation when using a dehumidifier or wall insulation when using your HVAC.

