

Conduite Sauf Report

Conduite Sauf Inc.

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Energy Efficiency 2017 and Beyond

Energy Efficiency is all about the long term performance of building systems. In particular, when I think about energy efficiency, I think about heat transfer through walls and ceilings, doors and windows, however there are other sources of heat loss. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing updated its standards for energy efficiency in housing in July 2016.

possibly renovations. Conduite Sauf Inc. has responded to this challenge by offering Building Science services to the general public including do-it-yourselfers and contractors. Contact our office when you need a desk-top review of an insulation design or field compliance review to meet your local Building Department's requirements.

.....new prescriptive compliance packages that provide minimum 15 per cent energy efficiency improvement over existing packages...incomplete quote, Source: <http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page14989.aspx>

Sweeping changes came into effect the beginning of this year. The changes affect how walls, ceilings, floors, and doors that separate heated space from unheated space will be constructed. There are strict new thermal resistance requirements (RSI), air-tightness targets (ACH) and maximum U-values (W/m²K) for composites such as wall assemblies, windows, sky-lights and patio doors.

These changes affect new home construction, additions and

Regular attic with R30 (9") of fiberglass 'pink' insulation in 30 year old house.



Where do the Calories Go?

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According to Natural Resources Canada, the average house uses about 2700 m³ of natural gas per year. That's an astonishing 100 GJ of energy. Enough to fuel the average car for 30,000 km!

Energy loss in our house is through convection, radiation and conduction. Heat loss also comes in the form of drafts or leaks. An energy efficient house is well sealed with controlled air exchange and making the right choices for insulation in the right places. Relative warm/cold areas can be determined by thermal imaging. A thorough investigation is required to identify and assess the insulation materials present in the walls, floors and attic spaces of your house.

The defining test for leaks in housing is the air - blower door test. The cost of an air-blower test can be \$500 or more per test but you can do it yourself. Let us show you how. Call for an appointment today.

Do-It-Yourselfers

Project Diary

Along with the project drawings and specifications, the next most important project document is the Project Diary also known as the Site Diary.

Why keep a diary, you ask? Here's why. The diary is a document of first record. The responsible person records any occurrences on the site starting with the initial building assessment and surveying until the final inspection. The responsible person also records events affecting site safety and events with a potential adverse impact on the building and its occupants.

Other information to record in the Project Diary is visits by contractors and subcontractors, when they arrived how long they stayed and why they departed. Record other visitors too. Make sure to get their names and contact information and who asked them to be there. Record any deficiencies and when they are to be repaired. Write down important delivery dates and times, checking waybills for completeness, weather

conditions and location of nearest hospital in case of an accident. Record the contact information for utilities to your building such as hydro, water and gas.

Software apps are now available for your smart phone.

The cost of a typical diary is about \$20.00 but you can get one for free from Conduite Sauf Inc. We will even help you get it set up. Call 705-730-1555 to make an appointment or drop by our office now!



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Retaining Walls

Municipalities and the conservation authorities have stepped up their requirements for retaining walls. Now, retaining walls exceeding 1 m in height generally require engineering assessment and design support.

Retaining walls may be constructed of masonry units, timber units or cast in place concrete or a combination. Retaining walls can be complex and may require structural and geotechnical assessment. Site conditions may determine method of construction. Call the office before you get started to set up an appointment.

Website Revisions

We've revised our website. Check out the new **Useful Links and Information** tab on www.conduitesauf.ca for calculating Building Permit fees and project checklists.