

Bullseye Bulletin

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Proper Drainage Around Home



One of the biggest factors to keeping your foundation sound is proper water drainage. Improper drainage can cause foundation issues by washing away supporting soil, heaving and sinking of foundation and intrusion into the home. Below are 4 steps to take to ensure your home is protected!

- 1.) Ensuring your gutters are clear from debris is a vital first step. This will allow the water that comes off the roof to properly drain through the gutter systems and away from the home. If the water cannot drain properly through the gutter system, it will overflow the gutters and back up towards the home.
- 2.) Ensure that your gutter downspouts are draining away from home at least six feet. In addition, the water should shed away from the home, not back towards the home.
- 3.) Yard drainage. The earth around the home should drop at least 6 inches in the first ten feet. This allows for surface water to go around the structure and drain properly. In 6 inches isn't possible, using swales is a good way to keep surface water way from you home.
- 4.) If you home has a crawlspace, ensure that water is not passing through the crawlspace. Moving water through the crawlspace can erode the supporting soil of the foundation and compromise the integrity of the home.

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