

Letter from Cliff Wheeler

I built my first home when I was 22. Back in the 1970's the focus was energy savings. While builders were strictly focused on energy savings, the industry neglected to consider the health effects of the building techniques and materials that were being used. In 1978 I attended an industry leading course that focused on low energy consumption. Although not typical at the time, the course also focused heavily on the importance of fresh air exchange. I was lucky to get an early education that started 30 years ago on indoor air quality when the topic was almost never discussed.

The EPA has done testing of indoor air quality and found that on average the air quality in our homes is roughly 2 to 5 times more polluted than the outside air. It has also been proven that trapped radon gas in a home is the second leading cause of lung cancer.

In the mid 1980's the American Lung Association (ALA) noticed a large increase in the number of people developing lung diseases such as asthma, emphysema and allergies. The ALA started searching for the cause of the rise in the above health concerns and found proof that the air we breathe in our homes was a major factor. This was especially true for young children due to their developing immune systems and the elderly due to their weaker immune systems.

The ALA began to realize that something needed to be done about the increase in the deterioration of our health. As a result, they developed a new building standard that is the toughest in our nation today. The standard is known as the "Certified American Lung Association Health House".

Wheeler & Auld have studied the ALA program extensively and become the only nationally recognized registered builder in Ohio with the ALA. In addition, I did advanced study with the founders of the "Health House" program allowing me to train other builders in the "Health House" program.

Many home buyers seem satisfied if their new home looks beautiful, is finished on time and within budget. While these items are very important and are a part of the Wheeler & Auld experience, they do not match the importance of a healthy environment for your family.

Building a healthier home requires a great deal of close attention to every detail including the workmanship and material going into the building of a home but it is very satisfying and comforting to me to know that Wheeler & Auld provide our clients with the safest and healthiest low maintenance homes that will last more than a lifetime.