





STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

154 Roundabout Ct. Rocky Mount, N.C. 27804 Phone: (252) 972-7703 Fax: (252) 972-7638

www.appianengineers.com admin@appianengineers.com

Review Purposes ONLY

Why Foundation Vents Should Be Located at Top of Foundation Walls. Moist (humid) air is less dense (and thus lighter) than dry air. In a crawl space, humid air rises upward, not downward. Locate foundation vents in crawl spaces at or near the top of the foundation wall - typically 0-8" below the top of the basement or crawl space foundation wall. ELEVATED -LOWEST -BOTTOM OF FLOOR FRAME ONE VENT WITHIN 3 - FLOOD VENTS (MIN. 2 OF EACH CORNER EACH ONE ON DIFFERENT SIDES OF -FIN. GRADE-MAX. 12" ABOVE GRADE INTERIOR GRADE MUST BE AT OR ABOVE THE EXTERIOR GRADE ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE LOWEST SIDE

## FLOOD VENT NOTES:

- . Install flood vents (made by Crawl Space Door Systems, Inc.) sized to conform to 1 sq. inch of net opening per sq. foot of enclosed
- 2. The openings should be installed on at least two sides of each enclosed area to decrease the chances that all openings could be blocked with floating debris and to allow for more even filling by floodwater and draining of the enclosed area. Openings should be reasonably distributed around the perimeter of the enclosed area unless there is clear justification (approved by the project Engineer) for putting all openings on just one or two sides (such as in townhouses or buildings set into sloping sites). For spaces such as porches enclosed on 3 sides by a crawl space (because porch crawl spaces are not allowed to communicate with the crawl space below heated spaces), each of the two vents must be individually sized for the total enclosed area. [ref. Openings in Foundation Walls and Walls of Enclosures, FEMA Technical Bulletin 1 / 2008, or latest revision]
- 3. Vent area is computed per ASCE 24 based on a rate of rise and fall of 5 ft/hour. The number or size of the openings may be decreased if data can be supplied to the project Engineer for review and approval indicating the rate of rise and fall for the specific
- 4. Enclosure under buildings in V Zones are not required to have flood vents provided the walls are non-supporting breakaway walls, open lattice or insect screening. However coordinate with building inspector to ensure local jurisdiction is in concurrence with FEMA.

## **CRAWL SPACE AIR VENTING NOTES:**

- 1. The minimum net area of ventilation openings shall not be less than 1 square foot for each 150 square foot of craw space ground area except that the total area of ventilation openings may be reduced to 1/1500 of under-floor areas where the ground surface is treated with an approved vapor retarder material in accordance with Section R408.2 and the required openings are placed in such way that the arrangement of openings provides cross-ventilation of the crawl space (Ref R408.1.1).
- 2. One vent shall be located within 3 feet of each corner of the building crawl space (Ref R408.1.2).





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