

We bought a 40-year-old house two years ago knowing it needed to be made more energy efficient. It was clear from prior energy audits that air leakage was a major issue and I knew I needed more insulation as well. Available rebates and the desire to start saving money were big incentives to get busy. I contacted five approved contractors and received bids from three including Greg at Efficiency Matters. I was impressed with Greg's sensible approach to determining the best course of action. While all the contractors had some good suggestions, Greg carefully identified the high-payback items that needed to be professionally done, those which I could do myself, and those which probably wouldn't provide worthwhile results.

I was impressed with the plan Greg presented because he proposed to vacuum out all the existing loose fill insulation in the attic prior to beginning air sealing. The other contractors planned to just push the existing insulation aside to seal the leaks and assured me that would work "just as well". I knew Greg's approach was the right way to do it.

Greg's bid was competitive with the others (one was much higher) and so he was hired. The work began on the day promised and for the next four days they stuck with it despite a couple of days of high temperatures. As I watched the work progressing I became more confident that I had selected the best contractor. After the existing insulation was thoroughly vacuumed out, he conscientiously went about getting all leaks sealed – even those that were in tough, cramped locations. Soffit vents were installed and kept clear as new insulation was blown in. It was obvious no short cuts were taken and all work was of very high quality. He even helped by making some suggestions so future bathroom renovations will not disturb the attic insulation. At the conclusion of the job the amount paid was just as we had agreed.

After the work was done we had a blower door test done to verify results and qualify for our rebates. The test was done by an independent party and showed an almost 60% reduction in air leakage. The standard for qualifying for the highest rebate was a 50% reduction so Greg's work well exceeded the high end of what would be expected. We received the maximum rebates possible.

The house is quiet and comfortable. We have no air conditioning and despite the hottest August (2011) on record, we stayed very comfortable by simply opening our windows early in the morning to let the cool air flow in and closing them after an hour or so. The efficiency gained by doing without air conditioning while staying comfortable is remarkable.

I would describe Greg as honest, thoughtful, conscientious, thorough, and hard working. I've worked with many contractors through the years and while most of them do a decent job, a few of them really impress with both their skills and attitude. Greg is one of the best and I would not hesitate to recommend him for improving the energy efficiency of your home.

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