

Aug 1, 2007

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To whom it may concern:

I want to take a moment and praise Dan Flynn and the other fine folks at D&R Residential Drainage Systems. Their knowledge and professionalism solved our soggy problems on time and within their estimated amount.

We first met with Dan Flynn in June of 2007 to discuss why water was pooling up under our house. We hadn't seen any broken pipes and we were stumped. His expertise, and knowledge of other houses and the terrain in our area, led him to the conclusion that our soil was heavy in clay, and didn't allow the water to drain properly. The source of the water was from our sprinklers and spring rains. We were a bit relieved to find out it was "normal" for our area; but, we still had to deal with the water problem, before it could result in damage to the structure of our house.

Dan's estimate was fair, and his crew worked hard to design us a proper drainage solution. I was given a tour of the system after it was complete. It's self-contained and quite high-tech. I was impressed. The warranty was what impressed my wife!

It's for reasons like these that I'd recommend D&R Residential Drainage Systems to anyone who might be in the same boat we were!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard Hundhausen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Richard Hundhausen
Boise, Idaho

Tales from the Doghouse

Thursday, 19 July 2007

Is there water under your house?

This post is a bit off-topic from the usual techno-geek stuff I blog, but for the last two weeks the fine folks from [D&R Residential Drainage Systems](#) have been under our house installing a system that ensures that we won't pool water after a heavy rain, yard watering, etc. More importantly, that it won't lead to a festival of bugs, molds, and mildews!

The Problem

The [neighborhood](#) we live in has horrible soil - heavy clay content and quite rocky. We're basically on top of table rock here in Boise. This means that the ground does not absorb water well, especially under the house. This spring, I went down in the crawlspace and saw that there had been water pooling:



I didn't see any pipe breaks or problems. After consulting some experts, especially [Dan Flynn of D&R](#), I realized it was just the water from outside coming in and pooling at the lowest point. He tells me many houses are like this in the area.

The Solution

Dan proposed an under-the-house drainage system. Basically this means the digging of a small trench, just the inside of the foundation, and sloping it down from the corners of the house.



The trenches are filled with rocks and wrapped with a special cloth, which allows the water to be collected and sent down stream. These trenches then feed into two catch buckets at the centers of each end of the house. The buckets contain a 1/2 hp pump for pumping the water out. They also have a battery-operated water alarm connected to it, in case of failure and overflow.



About the author/Disclaimer

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The pump has a float valve which kicks on when the water reaches a certain level, and pumps the water out of the crawlspace and into a clean-out pipe in our yard. They also installed an AC-powered vent, to further control the humidity.



I'm glad I acted when I did, because I don't want to fail an inspection in a few years when I go to sell the place. I also understand that systems like this are fairly common in other parts of the country. Who'd of known?