

## *In closing*

You will also find a buildup when there are sharp temperature drops and when the heating season first begins.

When you notice a condensation buildup in your home and on your windows seek out the causes and make the adjustments before damage begins.

Your new windows will provide years of comfort and protection. They are just an indicator that there may be a more serious moisture problem.

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PRODUCT/  
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INFORMATION

## *Condensation*



earthwise™  
WINDOWS & DOORS

## *What is It?*

Every year, with the arrival of cold, winter weather, questions about condensation arise. The moisture that forms on window glass, obscuring the view, can be irritating and possibly even damaging. The first reaction may be to blame the windows for this problem, yet windows do not cause condensation. Excessive wa-



ter vapor in the air, the temperature of the air and air circulation or movement is the three factors involved in the formation of condensation.

## *And more...*

Air can hold more water vapor when warm than when cold. When warm air is cooled, such as when the heating system is switched off at night, or when the seasons change, it will deposit the water that it can no longer retain as condensation on a cool surface. A similar effect can be demonstrated by breathing onto a mirror or other cool surfaces. In most cases the problem will resolve itself within a few weeks. Once the season change stabilizes the condensation usually dissipates. Most of the time waiting it out should address the situation.



## *Problems and solutions*

- 1) Taking a long shower puts over 1/2 pint of moisture in the air. To prevent damage from this install a bath fan that would vent this moisture to the outside of the home.
- 2) Clothes dryers push a lot of moisture into a home. To solve this buildup dryers should be vented to the outside. .
- 3) When the home has a crawl space instead of a basement there should be a vapor barrier on the ground as well as foundation vents. Avoid using metal windows without a thermal break.
- 4) If you have a humidifier installed you may find a problem with moisture buildup in the home. It must be remembered that relative humidity should be decreased when outside temperature decrease.