

**Dear Friend,**

Each month, BOWA Home Advisor provides you with important tips on how to improve and protect your home's value. We hope the following is helpful.



Custom Wine Cellar  
Great Falls, VA

## **Spray Foam Insulation, An Environmentally Friendly Option**

When it comes to insulation, there are several options available to today's homeowners. While there are pros and cons to each type of material and process, the new forms of spray-in foam insulation provide numerous environmental and cost-saving benefits making it an increasingly popular choice for both new homes and renovations.

Made of polyurethane foam, spray-on insulation is similar to the material appliance manufacturers have used in refrigerators and water heaters for years. Recent advancements in the materials and substantial decreases in cost now make the process much more suitable for residential construction projects, especially wine cellar insulation.

The liquid polyurethane is pumped through a pressurized spray nozzle and expands to about 100 times its original volume to form a continuous insulating barrier as it settles in place. Unlike traditional home insulating materials, such as fiberglass or cellulose, spray foam insulation can get into the smallest of spaces, sealing and filling the tiny cracks and seams you might not even see.

The seamless nature of the material virtually eliminates energy-wasting air filtration and warrants R-values (measure of the resistance to heat flow) that are among the highest of all insulation products at any given thickness. While the initial cost of installing spray foam insulation is higher than traditional materials, the fact that drafts are virtually eliminated and more constant indoor temperatures are maintained results in significantly lower utility bills. As such, spray foam insulation pays back the cost difference in energy savings in just a few years.

There are numerous other benefits of spray foam insulation when used in residential applications. One of these benefits is its superior performance in resisting moisture transmission and condensation. The material is also fire- and insect-resistant and can help to reduce noise transfer and sound penetrations. Additionally, the tight seal formed by spray foam insulation helps to maintain healthy indoor air quality, as it

prevents uncontrolled air infiltration and the penetration of dust, pollen and other allergens. As the material will not settle or contract over time, spray foam insulation helps to ensure the long-term comfort and value of your home.

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If you would like more information on any of these topics or if there are other ways we can be of service, please contact [BOWA Builders](#).

Regards.



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