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John Wick Homes  
400 Walter Rd.  
Mazomanie, WI 53562  
1-800-422-WICK

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## John Wick Homes Ventilation System Q&A

Q: Why is a mechanical ventilation system needed?

A: Houses constructed in the past that did not have the advantages of today's building technologies were built very "drafty", so air quality never became much of an issue. Moisture, gases, and cooking odors simply made their way out of the home through cracks in the building envelope and very leaky windows. With a tightly built home, moisture, gases and odors have nowhere to go and can build up to unacceptable levels unless you supply some way to exhaust these from the home, namely, a mechanical ventilation system.

Q: Is a whole house ventilation system required by building codes?

A: Building codes mandate the bare minimums that need to be achieved in homes today. More and more states, counties and municipalities are adopting ventilation standards set forth by ASHRAE (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers) in the ASHRAE 62.2 standard. Also, as of January 1, 2008, the Wisconsin Energy Star Homes program has implemented the standards in ASHRAE 62.2 and the Res-Net Certification criteria as their standard to have a home certified as an Energy Star home in Wisconsin.

Q: How does the John Wick Homes whole house ventilation system work?

A: The Panasonic Whisper Green bath fans that JWH installs in every home are continuously exhausting the moist and stale air from your home at a rate determined by the size of the home and number of people living in it. In most floor plans the fans will initially be set to continuously vent 30 CFM (cubic feet per minute) from each of the 2 main bathrooms. Each fan has a motion sensor which will ramp up the fan to 80 CFM when someone enters the bathroom, and will stay at this full exhaust level for a period of 20 minutes after someone leaves the bathroom.

We also understand the benefits of providing fresh, outside air and controlling the way that it enters the home. We have installed an Air Cycler, which will periodically start the air handler fan to draw in and distribute fresh air throughout your home, regardless of whether or not the thermostat is calling for a heating or cooling cycle. The thermostat will always take precedence over the Air Cycler, so normal use of the thermostat is all that is required by the homeowner.

Q: Is this the only way to equip a home with whole house ventilation?

A: No. JWH also still offers an HRV(heat recovery ventilator) as an upgrade as we have in the past. This system is approximately 3 times the cost of our new standard whole house ventilation system.

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Q: What are the benefits of this standard JWH whole house ventilation system?

A: This system will give every John Wick Home the ability to provide good indoor air quality, moisture and odor control, and a healthier living environment. The use of these fans in the bathroom has the added benefit of immediately removing moisture at the main source of entry into interior environment.

Also, not only will this whole house ventilation system meet the requirements of ASHRAE 62.2 and the Wisconsin Energy Star program, but these fans use much less energy than our old bath fans. They are equipped with DC motors that only use 2 watts of electricity in the continuous mode, which averages out to about eleven cents (yes, we mean \$0.11) per month to operate. They are also the quietest fans in the industry, rated at 0.3 sones. For comparison, our old standard fans were rated at 4.0 sones.

Q: Why is outside venting of the range hood or microwave important?

A: The process of cooking produces many pollutants that need to be exhausted from the home immediately. Things such as water vapor, smells and smoke are natural byproducts of cooking, and simply re-circulating and blowing them around the house will contribute to higher levels of VOCs (volatile organic compounds) in the home. Gas ovens and cooktops also produce water vapor themselves as a byproduct of combustion, so the need for outside exhaust is even greater in that situation.

Outside venting of the range hood or microwave over the range is also a requirement of the ASHRAE 62.2 standard as well as the Wisconsin Energy Star Program.