



Homes of Distinction, Built with Integrity

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The Whole Scoop on Whole House Fans

Product Spotlight : **Airscape™ Whole House Fans**

The heating and cooling of indoor air has the largest effect on your home's energy usage and can really eat into your household budget. Here in California, we have mild winters and long summers. We easily take the chill out of short overnight cold snaps with basic heaters, blankets, and even using residual heat created by our everyday activities. However, excess heat is harder to remedy. With rolling blackouts sometimes occurring due to the extra strain on air-conditioning equipment, our heat waves are always a "hot" news topic. Consumers' energy bills spike much higher in summer months than in winter, since many consumers feel the need to run the A/C on into the night.



With the idea of "home performance" in mind (the process of treating the house as a system), Chris Donatelli Builders can assist you in finding areas of your home such as insulation, roofing, windows and mechanical equipment where we can improve your indoor air quality. Changes in any of these areas can help combat the effect of the seasons on your home. A more functional system will protect your home from the large temperature fluctuations that we can experience here in the Bay Area.



In this newsletter, we'd like to focus on a more efficient alternative to traditional air-conditioning: "whole house fans." These units are easily installed within your attic ceiling and host a wide array of advanced features. **Airscape**

offers units that have electronically controlled dampers, dual speed fans, efficient motors, heavy-duty aluminum construction, integrated insulation and even wireless remotes. These units can be set at low speed for quiet operation, or at high speed for maximum airflow. Different units are available depending on the square footage of your home. We are very happy with the performance of the **Airscape** products we've installed in area homes, and our clients have expressed their satisfaction as well.

It all works very simply. Typically, these fans are turned on at night with some exterior windows open. The warm air inside the home is drawn up and out the attic venting. Cool air is then drawn in from the windows to replace the exhausted air. The home is cooled overnight using naturally cooler air at a fraction of the price of air-conditioning. If your home is insulated properly, you may be able to keep cooler air inside during the day and eliminate your use of the A/C equipment. If you DO wish to activate your air-conditioning during the day, the load will be much lighter with cool night air filling the home at the start of the day. Plus, the quiet operation of an **Airscape** unit will not disturb your sleep while you replace stagnant inside air with fresh outdoor air.

For centuries, buildings were designed with architectural features that naturally kept them feeling cool and comfortable. Now we can achieve the same level of comfort with technologically advanced systems like **Airscape** that help you enjoy your home more and make it less expensive to maintain. Please visit www.airscapefans.com to learn more.

Please do not hesitate to call our office at (408) 287-4886 or visit our [website](#) if you have any



Our staff members hold the following industry certifications:

- Certified Remodeler
- Certified Remodeling Carpenter
 - Certified Lead Carpenter
- Certified Kitchen and Bath Remodeler
 - Certified Green Building Professional

questions regarding the above information. As always, we will be glad to help you increase your home's efficiency and comfort!

CDB Makes QR Top 500 List for 9th Year

Our focus is always on helping homeowners enjoy their homes,

so it's icing on the cake when we are honored for our efforts.

We are proud to announce that we were again placed on the elite Qualified Remodeler Top 500 List. We are particularly

pleased because we feel it reflects our professionalism and dedication to doing things right.



High Marks for CDB in GreenPoint Showcase

Chris Donatelli Builders recently took part in the Bay Area GreenPoint Showcase put on by Build It Green of Berkeley. Our project showcase open house in Los Altos was a success, with many visitors seeing the recent whole house build that we completed. This home had many "green" features and achieved one of the highest point ratings on the tour. The showcase home can be seen [here](#).

Home Maintenance Tip: A Clean Chimney is a Safe Chimney

Before you use your fireplace this year, have a certified chimney sweep inspect and clean the flues and check your fireplace damper. They'll remove any build-up of soot and creosote inside the chimney and take care of any bird nests that could block the escape of gases or catch fire from sparks.

Chris

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