

## The Incredible Benefits of an “ICF” (Insulated Concrete Formed) Home:

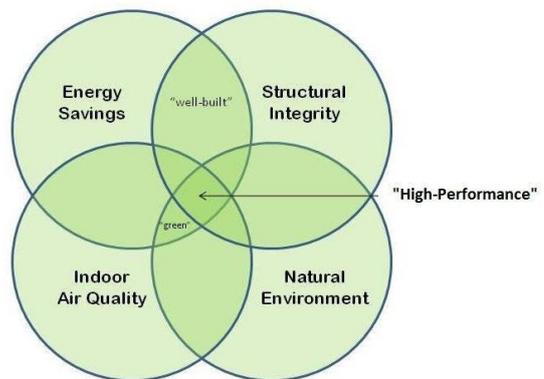
**We are fortunate to have** had the counsel of Mr. Don Deichmann of “The Better Building Institute”, as one of our advisors. The following are quotations from a brochure he publishes: ([www.BetterBuildingInstitute.com](http://www.BetterBuildingInstitute.com))

As a starter for the brochure, he states: **“For the strongest, most energy-efficient building envelope, start with insulated concrete formed (ICF) walls!”**

**Within that brochure, are these other comments, verbatim:**

### What is a 'High-Performance' Home?

The diagram at the right shows what makes a home 'High-Performance'. When building a home, attention is focused on several basic goals, among them the ability (1) to be structurally sound so it withstands most natural (or man-made) disasters, (2) to have healthy indoor air quality, (3) to preserve the natural environment, and (4) to save energy. By overlapping these and the other goals, we *hope* to end up with the best home possible. Areas that are shared by two or more goals can be called 'green' or 'well-built', but where



they all overlap is our ultimate goal: High-Performance.

### A Strong, Energy-Efficient Building Envelope

ICF Walls are our starting point, satisfying ALL of the goals recited above!

There are many different materials and practices, but BBI's choice is *Insulated Concrete Forms* (ICF), shown at right. Styrofoam blocks stacked like Lego's™ and filled with rebar and concrete, ICFs provide the strongest and most energy-efficient outer shell a house can have. Manufacturers claim an R40+ insulation rating, and wind resistance up to 200 mph, plus it won't burn, melt, mold, wash away, leak air or get eaten by termites! Siding, stucco, drywall etc. is easily attached to either side to form one *solid* wall.



A related maxim coined by Don Dieckmann Of the Better Building Institute:

Remember,  
The Cheapest, Safest &  
Cleanest Energy Is the Kind  
You Never Use!