

Draft proofing can save money, increase comfort

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN YOUR HOME
Submitted by EOS Eco-Energy)

Can you feel cold air coming in around a window or door in your house?

This means that not only do you have a draft, but warm air will escape from the same area that cold air is entering.

By sealing your drafts, you will: save money, increase the comfort of your home and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by reducing your energy consumption. Sealing gaps and cracks with caulking and weatherstripping can reduce heat loss by 25 to 40 per cent in an older home.

The materials required to draft proof your home are inexpensive and available for purchase at most local hardware stores. Don't worry about the need to hire an expensive contractor. This is a do-it-yourself project! Even apartment

dwellers and renters can draft proof parts of their homes.

10 EASY TIPS FOR DRAFT PROOFING YOUR HOME

1. Remove any old or damaged caulk/weatherstripping.
2. Caulk around baseboards, sump pump lids, openings in the attic and between an uninsulated attic or basement and the living areas of the house. Seal the top of foundations for added efficiency.
3. Use a smoking incense stick or candle to find drafts near windowsills, doors, electrical outlets and walls.
4. Doors get warped by use and weather, which leaves gaps between the door and frame. If your exterior doors are drafty, caulk between the doorframe and the wall and add weatherstripping along the top and edge of the door. For added

protection, you can also put weatherstripping along the vertical doorstep to press against the face of the door when closed.

5. Install a door sweep on the bottom edge of your door, or attach weatherstripping along the bottom of the door or on the threshold. Weatherstripping attached to the door itself needs to be extra durable.

6. Use weatherstripping and caulking to seal around windows.

7. Joints shift over time and will leave gaps and cracks due to changes in moisture and temperature. Use caulking to seal the spaces between interior joints, around non-opening windows and spaces around water pipes and vents. Choose a caulking that is appropriate to the task.

8. You can purchase gaskets that fit behind the cover plates of electrical outlets and lighting fixtures to reduce leak-

age. Caulk the edges of these gaskets.

9. Child safety plugs fitted into infrequently used electrical outlets can help reduce heat loss into exterior walls.

10. Cover single-paned or inefficient windows with plastic in the winter.

It is possible to over seal your house, leaving it prone to mold or carbon monoxide issues. While it is unlikely to do so with weather stripping and a caulking gun, keep in mind that controlled air circulation is essential for a healthy and comfortable home.

Stay tuned for EOS Eco-Energy's next column on Energy Efficiency in your Home.

If you have any questions, please contact Katie Friars, EOS program coordinator, by phone 360-0063 or email: katie.friars@capejourmain.org. You can also check us out on the web at: www.eos-eco.net.

Information from: www.bchydro.com



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Sackville set to welcome artist Mathew Reichertz

Mathew Reichertz, a painter from Halifax, will give a presentation on his work at the Owens Art Gallery on Wednesday, March 25, at 7:30 p.m.

Reichertz received his MFA from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1999. Now an assistant professor in painting at NSCAD, Reichertz is an active member of the Halifax art community who has shown his work extensively throughout Canada and Korea. In 2005, Reichertz

was a Sobey Art Award semi-finalist and also the Eastern Canadian winner of the RBC New Canadian Painting Competition. He was subsequently a national runner-up for the RBC Competition.

Critic Sue Carter Flinn describes Reichertz as an "incredibly emotive painter" whose work is characterized by a "meticulous fascination with narratives, events and time." For more information, contact Leah Garnett at (506) 364-2498.

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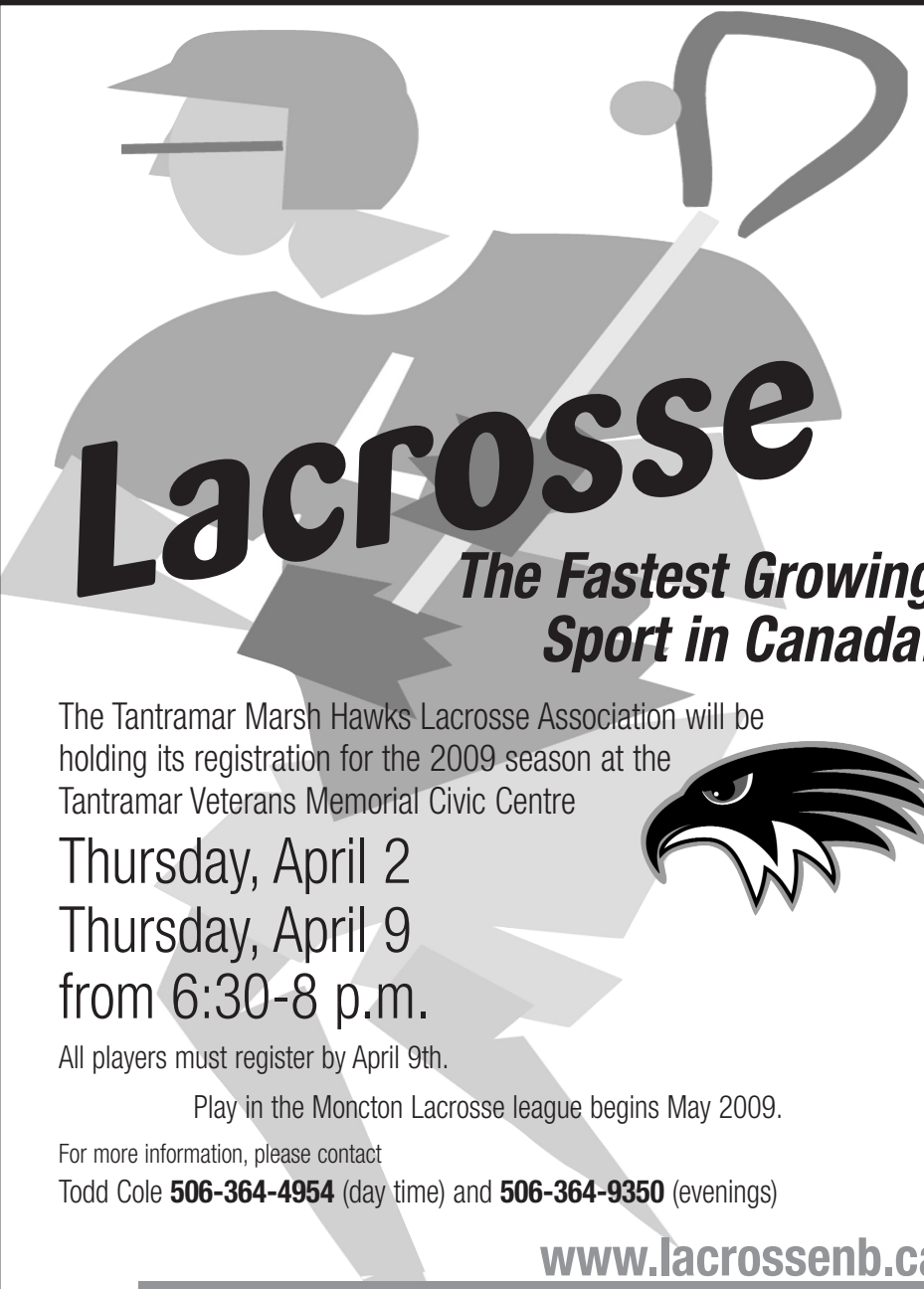


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Lacrosse

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The Tantramar Marsh Hawks Lacrosse Association will be holding its registration for the 2009 season at the Tantramar Veterans Memorial Civic Centre

Thursday, April 2
Thursday, April 9
from 6:30-8 p.m.

All players must register by April 9th.

Play in the Moncton Lacrosse league begins May 2009.

For more information, please contact
Todd Cole **506-364-4954** (day time) and **506-364-9350** (evenings)

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