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Shaping Energies, LLC

## Cellulose Insulation: Loose Blown

Loose blown cellulose insulation is generally used to insulate your attic. This topic is as straight forward as they come. Loose blown cellulose is a great way to insulate your attic. The most common alternative to cellulose is fiberglass, and the sensible reason for this is simply that old habits die hard. Cellulose has slightly more insulating value per inch than fiberglass, but the true benefits are in the details. Fiberglass is difficult to properly install and BPI (The Building Performance Institute) says gaps in your fiberglass insulation that constitute over 5% of the insulated area can reduce the R-value from R3 per inch down to R0.7 per inch! That is substantial! Often times, when we go into buildings and perform a thermal imaging scan (with an infrared camera) we see many different areas where the fiberglass insulation is not making contact with the sheetrock, or it has been crushed and moved around, or mice have been nesting in it and removing it from the attic over the last 40 years! Cellulose on the other hand:

- Makes good contact with the surface it is trying to insulate
- Repels rodents
- Has a class A fire rating
- Is made from 83% recycled content
- Borate additive resists mold

The cellulose insulation Shaping Energies installs is called Cell-Pak, by National Fiber, and it has an insulating level or R-value of 3.7 per inch for loose fill applications.

Since the Vermont Energy Code and the Department Of Energy require an insulating level of R49 for attics in Vermont; cellulose is one of the best products to achieve this insulating level.

### **Benefits of insulating with cellulose at open cavity attics (attic decks):**

- Reduce heat loss through the ceiling.
- Reduce snow melting and ice forming on the roof.
- Reduce roof damage and the need for a new roof.
- Reduce the possibility of water backing up into the roof from ice forming and getting into the walls and damaging the walls (and the wall insulation) and causing mold issues when gone undetected or improperly handled.
- Reduce the possibility of condensation at the interior side of the ceiling because the temperature change across the ceiling is past the wet bulb threshold and dew point.
- Reduce the need for attic ventilation (primarily additional attic ventilation). The amount of attic ventilation that you are supposed to have is governed by a couple of simple rules, and you never need more, period.

Call or email us for a free estimate, or fill out the form at [www.shapingenergies.com/attic-insulation.html](http://www.shapingenergies.com/attic-insulation.html) to receive an instant quote and schedule your project instantly when you submit the form. You can view our schedule and availability at the right side of the screen. We will contact you within 24 hours to verify your project details.

*Note:* You can download the MSD sheets that contain all of the technical information regarding the cellulose product Shaping Energies installs at <http://www.shapingenergies.com/resources.html>