

# crumbling BASEMENTS

## Connecticut Coalition Against Crumbling Basements

The Connecticut Coalition Against Crumbling Basements (CCACB) is a grassroots organization founded in early 2016 by two homeowners who discovered they were victims of pyrrhotite. CCACB is now a formal non-profit with a mission to educate the region about this crisis and serve as the voice for victims. We are stronger together.

### Action Steps for Potential Victims

*We are not experts. We are homeowners just like you. But we can speak from our experiences.*

**Contact a structural engineer** to evaluate your concrete. Most homeowners have a visual inspection completed because this costs a few hundred dollars instead of a few thousand dollars. You should receive a written report of this inspection.

If pyrrhotite is confirmed, the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection is asking homeowners to **submit the DCP form** to help the state determine the scope of this crisis. Many of us have only filled out the basic information on this form and provided no actual documentation except the date of our new inspection report and the inspector's contact information. We are simply going on the record as affected.

Many homeowners have **filed claims with their insurance companies**, which have generally been denied. Often, homeowners are hiring attorneys to assist in this process.

**Please visit [ccacb.org](http://ccacb.org) for more details. You are not alone.**



We have an active social network, especially on Facebook. Like our page to find a community of victims, news, and updates. Search: Connecticut Coalition Against Crumbling Basements

**For questions, please email [info@ccacb.org](mailto:info@ccacb.org).**



# ARE YOU A VICTIM?

**Was your home/addition built in the 1980s or later?  
Do your basement walls look like this?**



**If so, you may be affected by concrete containing pyrrhotite.**

Pyrrhotite is an **iron sulfide mineral**. It has been found in a quarry in northeastern Connecticut that provided **building aggregate** for construction projects in the region. Over time, pyrrhotite that is **exposed to oxygen and water reacts and causes swelling and cracking**. As a structure continues to deteriorate, it often **becomes unsound**. No repairs have been found to solve this problem. **The only repair is to replace.**

**Hundreds or even thousands have never heard of this crisis, but may be victims.**



## **Know the Signs of Pyrrhotite**

The cracking is **not** normal settling or shrinkage

Cracks typically take 15 to 20 years to appear

Cracks may be horizontal, on a 45° angle, or in a spider pattern

You may notice white powder in and around the cracks

Brown stains or drips may appear that resemble rust