

reactive clays which could contribute to subsidence in extreme conditions or if the site is not well maintained. Ensure an even moisture profile is maintained to perimeter of your home).

- Have you or your neighbours built a retaining wall near your house? (A rule of thumb is that retaining walls can cause damage when they're closer to your house than about one and a half times the retained height.) Retaining walls over 1 metre in height require Local Government approval and must be designed by a Registered Professional Engineer and should take into account slab/footing design and soil profile.
- If you have the soil test report and footing design for your house you should check the advice on site maintenance contained in those documents.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on ground movement and damage to houses is contained in the **CSIRO Information Sheet 10-91** titled '*A guide to homeowners on foundation maintenance and footing performance*'. This sheet can be obtained for a small charge through CSIRO Publishing in Victoria, freecall 1800 645 051, or through <http://www.publish.csiro.au/>

Homeowners may also wish to seek advice from the following:

- Registered Professional Engineers of Qld practising in this field;
- the Local Government building section or private certifiers;
- licensed builders;
- landscape gardeners; and
- the Cement and Concrete Association ph. 07 3831 3288.

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