

**Hail Season Is Right Around the Corner... The Colorado Roofing Association Warns Homeowners and Commercial Building Owners to be Cautious of "Storm Chasers" After Hail Storm in Colorado**

FRONT RANGE AREAS, COLORADO – **During the summer months of May through August there is a chance for a Colorado hailstorm to rip through your community and when they do,** homeowners are faced with the task of hiring a roofing contractor to repair the damage. The Colorado Roofing Association (CRA) would like to remind home and commercial building owners alike, that there are several guidelines you should follow to ensure that any necessary work will be done correctly.

The CRA wants to warn homeowners and building owners of "storm chasers," contractors who follow storms and pose as local companies to solicit work before moving on to the next community. Storm chasers rarely take the time and care with the job and many provide faulty workmanship and warranties. In some cases, storm chasers have required payment up front, allowing them to move to the next community without completing the project.

The CRA provides the following guidelines for homeowners and building owners selecting a roofing contractor following a hail storm:

- Do not sign anything without fully understanding the agreement. You may be asked to sign a "waiver" to allow the storm chaser on the roof. A lot of times this is actually a contract that has severe cancellation fees associated with it.
- Do not allow any one on your property that knocks on your door, even if they are a local contractor. Only allow people on your roof that you have called to come out.
- Be patient, take time to follow the necessary steps and understand that quality contractors will be busy after a major storm. If your roof isn't leaking, it can wait until a quality roofer is available, be patient. Do not rush or feel pressure to rush into a quick decision.
- The agreement should clearly state materials to be used, scope of work to be performed and a price for these same services along with terms of payment, a 72 hour right of rescission clause and who is responsible for permits, etc.
- Call your insurance company immediately. It is solely the insurance adjuster's job to assess the damage. It is the homeowner's responsibility to choose the roofing contractor.
- It is illegal for a roofing contractor to offer to pay, waive, or rebate any insurance deductible. Storm chasers may also offer you a "free upgrade", this is also illegal. New legislation was signed in to law in June of 2012 by Gov. Hickenlooper that prohibits this.
- Ask for proof of insurance, including Workers' Compensation and General Liability, before signing a contract.
- Payment should not be made until you are satisfied with the completed work. Ability to finance labor and materials is a sign of financial stability of the contractor. If material is delivered to your home and then payment is requested, consider making a joint check

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payable to both the contractor and material supplier. You may ask for a full lien release as a condition of final payment.

It is important to choose a trusted, reputable local roofing contractor, especially after a storm. Call local references including friends and neighbors, as well as the Better Business Bureau. Find out their permanent business address and phone number and confirm that they are licensed as necessary so that local building codes and requirements will be followed, including project inspections.

Visit the Colorado Roofing Association website for tips on selecting a professional contractor, a **'no soliciting' door sign** and a copy of the "Residential Roofing Bill of Rights" at [www.coloradoroofing.org](http://www.coloradoroofing.org).

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*The Colorado Roofing Association is a non-profit organization established in 1978. Our continued commitment is to promote the ethics, education, and image of the roofing industry throughout the State of Colorado. The Colorado Roofing Association is dedicated to helping homeowners and commercial building owners and managers make informed decisions about replacing and maintaining their roof systems and in helping give back to the community through our charitable contributions. Visit [coloradoroofing.org](http://coloradoroofing.org) for more information.*