

Ice Damming—Now What?

FGS The Restoration Company has taken hundreds of phone calls from customers asking us to inspect their homes or buildings. While assessing some of these properties it has become apparent that many are misinformed about the cause, prevention and the necessary steps to restore the damage.

Icicles hanging from the gutters are usually the first warning sign of possible ice damming. Many insured don't realize the significance of the damage that may be occurring behind the formations of ice. We are going to explain how they form and some ideas on how to prevent and repair ice damming.

What exactly is an ice dam?

An ice dam is a sheet of ice that forms at the edge of the roof. This is normally along the gutters or 3 to 4 feet up from the roof's edge. This wall of ice acts like a dam, creating a pool of water that continues to grow from melting snow and then refreezes in the cooler temperatures. The melting ice can seep up and under the shingles, finding its way inside the home or building, which, can damage the insulation, walls, ceilings and in extreme cases even more.

What caused the ice damming?

The one thing that every ice damming loss has in common is the weather. Snow, ice and fluctuating temperatures are always a factor in ice damming. There are other factors that increase the risk of ice damming striking your home or building such as not enough insulation, insulation out of position and ventilation problems. These items can sometimes be diagnosed through testing. Contact a trustworthy roofer or insulation company or even an architect or engineer to help you find the exact reason for your ice damming.

Should the snow and ice be removed?

Some prefer to hire a roofing contractor to remove snow and ice. In addition to the obvious danger of physically being on an icy roof, this plan also runs the risk of damaging the roof in the process of shoveling the snow or chipping the ice off.

When should the interior damages be fixed?

In the spring! Ice damming damages should be fixed after all the snow and ice are gone from the roof and the threat of more accumulation is gone for the season. Why? For the very simple reason that no one wants to pay for the same repairs twice. If FGS The Restoration Company dries and repairs the structure before all the snow and ice are gone, there is a risk that it could happen again.

What can FGS The Restoration Company do for your customers?

The team at FGS The Restoration Company can do temporary repairs, remove wet drywall & insulation and confirm that it is indeed dry before moving on to repairing the walls and ceilings to a pre-loss condition.

Golf Outing Fundraiser for the American Red Cross

We are just beginning to plan our 2008 Golf Outing to raise money for the American Red Cross, we are thinking of Friday July 25th. Please email or call Crystal with any suggestions for this event. csalzman@wimci.com or 258-2094

Continuing Education

We are teaming up with Klein-Dickert Auto Glass to bring the following CE classes to you!

When? April 15th, 2008

Topics? Ethics #59628 7:30am to 11:30am (4 credits)

E & O Case Study #59627 12:30 to 4:30pm (4 credits)

Where? BTCI Auditorium in Fitchburg

Register: www.klein-dickert.com and click on the CE icon

For Information: Call Crystal Salzman at (608) 258-2094



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Specializing in restoring your homes & properties for over 20 years.