

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN

To: GAF Residential Sales, GAF Contractors, GAF Field Services

From: Technical Services Department

**Subject: Replacement Of Storm Damaged Shingles**



Quality You Can Trust...  
From North America's  
Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

Issued Date: 07/30/2014

No: TAB-R 2011-126-R1

## **What Are Some Causes For "Storm Damage" To Shingles?**

**Damage to shingles caused by** extraordinary weather conditions such as hurricanes, hail, tornadoes, lightning, winds higher than warranted, or cold-weather related damages such as ice-damming.

## **Does The GAF Shingle Limited Warranty Cover This Type Of Damage?**

**Extraordinary weather related damages as described above** are specifically excluded from coverage\*. This damage may be immediately noticeable, or can be latent damage in which case evidence of any damage may not be immediately apparent. This latent damage caused by severe weather or flying debris may cause the shingles to deteriorate prematurely.

\*Some GAF shingles are warranted to withstand winds up to 130 mph following when using GAF WeatherBlocker™ or Pro-Start™ starter strips and 6 (or more) nails.

## **What Are Some Examples Of Latent Damage That I Could Expect To See?**

**Latent damage may take on many forms such as:**

- Granule loss at points of impact of debris or caused by stresses the shingles endure
- Cracks in the granule-asphalt surfacing – especially if high winds blew the shingles back
- Exposed fiberglass mat – which may or may not be immediately visible
- Loosening of the self-seal integrity creating the potential for future shingle blow-off

## **What If I have Granule Loss Concerns?**

**Loss of mineral granules as an immediate or gradual consequence** of storm damage exposes the asphalt coating directly to the environment. This granule loss may result in the accelerated aging and the premature deterioration of the shingles.

Any shingle failures caused by storm damage, immediate or as a result of latent damage, is beyond the scope of the GAF Shingle Limited Warranty, and is not the responsibility of GAF.

**Note: Granule loss is NOT just cosmetic damage and "sugaring," the process of adding loose granules to damaged shingle with asphalt cement, is not a permanent repair.**

## **Is There Anything Else To Be Aware Of?**

**"Blue Tarpred Roofs":** As immediately effective as tarping a damaged roof is to protect the building, securing the tarp by nailing through the shingles damages the shingles. Shingles that were nailed through must be replaced; caulking these nail holes is not a permanent repair and creates a maintenance item that is not a "material defect" covered by a manufacturer's warranty.

## **Can Several Individual Shingles Be Replaced Or Should The Entire Roof Be Replaced?**

**While it is possible to replace individual storm damaged shingles,** latent damage to the surrounding shingles caused by a storm is difficult to assess. Because of the potential for the surrounding shingles to also have experienced storm damage, complete roof replacement is recommended for the long term performance of these roofs. If the damage is confined to one plane of the roof, replacement of just the damaged roof plane may be possible. If individual shingles are being replaced, any nails that were removed from surrounding shingles must be replaced and the surrounding shingles must be resealed by hand to ensure a weather-tight roofing system.

An additional benefit to complete replacement is the ability of the roofing professional to check for latent storm damage – something that is difficult to do if just a few shingles are replaced.

## **Where Can I Get More Information?**

**GAF Technical Services can assist you...** with these and other questions you may have regarding your new roof installation. GAF Technical Services can be contacted at **800-ROOF-411** (800-766-3411). Also, the GAF website is a great resource for just about any question you may have or for additional information you may require. Please visit: [www.gaf.com](http://www.gaf.com).