



# NOVEMBER

## GUTTERS and DOWNSPOUTS

- Use extreme caution and proper equipment when working on the roof and from ladders.
- Clean out loose gutter debris frequently and do not allow debris to remain or decay in the body.
- Flush out each downspout to determine free flow.
- Adjust any splash blocks to direct water away from the house.
- Check downspout hangers, straps and connections.
- Inspect for gutters for improper slope, sags, rust-through, leaky joints, standing water and make corrections if needed. Slope to drain. Do not allow standing water in the gutters.
- Add filter screens at gutter downspout openings, especially if the downspouts are connected to an underground drain system. If system is exposed to heavy debris, clean every three months or more as needed.
- Inspect gutter system for any rust. Visual rust on the underside of gutters is an indication of imminent failure.
- The expected life of roof gutters and sheet metal should be matched and equal to the life expectancy of the roofing material. Plan to replace with any roofing change or prior to complete failure.

## SITE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

- Inspect/clean the collection boxes, piping and out-falls. Remove any loose obstructions and debris. Regularly flush or snake drain lines or long runs to keep them free-flowing.
- Locate, service and operate all sump pumps at least annually. If sump pumps are critical, make certain that a back-up power supply is available.
- Locate and visually inspect drain out-falls (daylight ends) for blockage and erosion. Do not allow the drain outfalls to be blocked, screened or covered with drain rock.
- Make sure downspout/drain connections and other collection points are sealed tight.