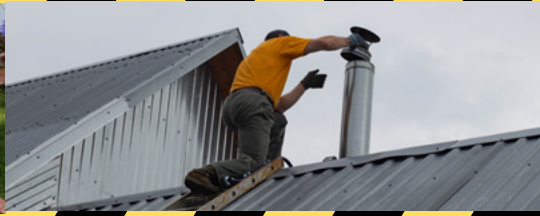
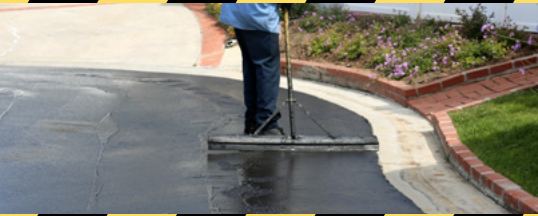


HOME REPAIR SCAMS



Each year when the weather turns nice, itinerant crews of roofers, pavers and day laborers travel from city to city, driving through neighborhoods looking for victims. Sometimes they “offer” to pave your driveway, repair your roof, fix your chimney or paint your house with supplies “left over” from another job. Whatever the offer, it’s important to remember: **This is just a scam!** The repair work is completed very quickly, the quality is poor, and the “repairs” usually cost more than the original estimate. They may demand more money during the project.

Bellevue Police urge community members to follow these simple steps to protect themselves from being these scammers’ next victim:

Warning Signs:

- The repair person drives an unmarked truck or van with an out-of-state license.
- The worker has no business identification, local address or telephone number.
- You are offered a “special price” if you sign today.
- The worker wants upfront cost or fees or accepts only cash.
- No written estimates or contracts are provided.
- The worker does not have any references.
- The offer sounds “too good to be true.”
- The company does not have a legitimate website or social media presence.
- The name of the “business” may begin with phrases like “Masonry and,” “Chimneys and,” or “Foundations and”.

If you are planning to hire a contractor, make sure the contractor is registered with the State of Washington’s Department of Labor and Industries and is bonded. Check the contractor’s references and solicit several written bids. For more information about what you should know when working with a contractor, visit www.atg.wa.gov/contractors.

If you have fallen for one of these scams, report to the police by calling 911.

