### **RESEARCH+TECH**



# Guidance for homeowners

NRCA offers residential roofing contractors several publications to help educate homeowners by Mark S. Graham ost homeowners only reroof their homes once—maybe twice—in a lifetime, and buying a new roof system is a significant investment. When it's time to reroof, many homeowners have many questions about the reroofing process.

To help you educate homeowners about how to make smart roofing decisions, NRCA has published a series of homeowner-oriented publications that you can provide to homeowners as part of your sales, installation and project closeout processes.

#### FYI

*FYI, Buying a New Roof and Getting Your Money's Worth*, is a 20-page pamphlet that explains the basic process of buying a new roof, describes roof system components and terminology, provides NRCA's recommendations for choosing a professional roofing contractor and answers commonly asked questions.

Members can download FYI free or purchase the pamphlets from NRCA in packages of 100.



### Homeowners guide

Homeowners Guide to Asphalt Shingle Roof Systems is a 28-page, pocketsize document that describes roof slope, steep-slope roof system configurations, why reroofing may be necessary, roof system materials and installation, attic ventilation and ice-dam protection. It also discusses specific items that should be included in a contractor's estimate or proposal, defining a reroofing project's scope of work and materials, and steps for project completion and contractor final payment.

Members can download the guide

free or purchase it from NRCA in packages of 10.

#### Quality control guidelines

*Quality Control Guidelines for the Application of Asphalt Shingle Roof Systems*, published jointly by the Asphalt Roofing Manufacturers Association and NRCA, provides industry-

recognized quality control procedures specific to asphalt shingle roof system installations.

The most effective means to evaluate the quality of a new

asphalt shingle roof system installation is by thorough visual examination and evaluation at the time of application. This typically is carried out by the job-site lead person or foreman or, in some cases, a contractor's field superintendent. The document

describes the elements of an effective application

quality control program. Evaluation criteria and corrective action, if deemed necessary, are provided for roof substrate surfaces, underlayment, drip edge, fasteners, asphalt shingles and flashings. Checklists also are provided for project sequencing and housekeeping. This document can be used to describe your company's installation quality control process to homeowners.

Members can download single copies of the document or purchase them in hard-copy format from NRCA. Post-job inspection forms are available in tear-off pads of 25.

### Homeowner inspection and maintenance

Asphalt Shingle Roof Systems: A Homeowners Guide for Inspection, Maintenance and Repair functions as an owner's manual for asphalt shingle roof systems.

A manufacturer's warranty does not replace the need for periodic inspections and necessary maintenance and repairs to a newly installed asphalt shingle roof system. This guide explains to homeowners their inspection, maintenance and repair responsibilities

> and provides a checklist for performing homeowner maintenance inspections. Inspections and maintenance will optimize a homeowner's roof system service life. In the event a home-

owner is not interested in or comfortable with performing inspections and routine maintenance (such as cleaning gutters),

**G** NRCA's homeowneroriented documents provide helpful independent, third-party information **7**  NRCA encourages homeowners to hire professional roofing contractors to perform these services.

Members can download the document free or purchase it in hardcopy format in packs of 10.

#### Closing thoughts

Homeowners make significant investments in their homes, and properly designed, manufactured, installed and maintained roof systems play an important role in protecting homes and their contents.

Residential roofing contractors can assist homeowners in making informed roof system purchasing, maintenance and repair decisions. And NRCA's homeowner-oriented documents can provide helpful independent, third-party information that helps educate homeowners and assist them in making wellinformed roofing decisions.

All documents are available at shop.nrca .net. ��●≉

MARK S. GRAHAM is NRCA's vice president of technical services.



To view additional residential roofing resources available for homeowners, including FAQ, go to professionalroofing.net.

# ICC releases recommendations for remote virtual inspections

The International Code Council® has published "Recommended Practices for Remote Virtual Inspections." Based on study, research and discussions from ICC's membership, partners and industry experts, the document provides guidelines governmental jurisdictions may consider for an effective remote virtual inspections program.

As technology transforms the building and construction industries

To view an infographic identifying key steps for successful remote virtual inspections, go to professionalroofing.net. and the COVID-19 pandemic continues, successful remote virtual inspections are needed more than ever. Remote virtual inspections use visual or electronic aids that allow inspectors to observe construction projects, products or materials from a distance. Remote inspections are beneficial when materials or buildings are inaccessible

or in dangerous environments, preventing an in-person inspection. The implementation of remote virtual inspections also can save time and money by eliminating the need for inspectors to travel to and from job sites.

A clear understanding of the requirements for remote inspections

and regular communication throughout the process by all parties involved is paramount to a successful inspection. The document outlines remote virtual inspection best practices, including scheduling, customer preparation, job-site identification, and results and records maintenance.

"With a properly implemented remote virtual inspections program, building safety professionals can overcome the variety of challenges brought on by the pandemic and continue providing services to keep buildings safe and resilient," says Dominic Sims, ICC's CEO. "While this practice has popularized in the midst of COVID-19 social distancing, remote virtual inspections are likely to become a routine tool for the future."

"Recommended Practices for Remote Virtual Inspections" can be downloaded at shop.iccsafe.org.

## Procore launches online construction job board

Construction industry employers and job seekers now can use the Construction Career Board to find workers and job opportunities, according to constructiondive.com. The Construction Career Board is



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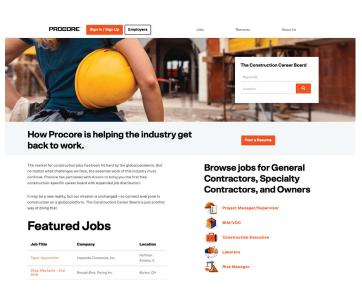




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an online construction job recruitment resource created by construction management software provider Procore.

The platform allows contractors and other construction businesses to post job opportunities for free. When an employer looks for a new hire, the Procore job board automatically distributes the job posting to other online career boards such as Glassdoor, BirdDog Jobs and Indeed. Employers receive emails when applications are received. The job



boards are available in English and Spanish.

Individuals looking for new positions can upload their resumes and search for available jobs that match their skill sets. Positions range from accounting and marketing to electricians and carpenters. Users also can customize their experiences by signing up for email alerts when jobs are posted matching their area, experience and other criteria. Connecting construction companies with skilled tradespeople looking for work has been an ongoing industry challenge. Many construction employers are searching for new workers despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

This spring, 40% of construction firms had to lay off or furlough workers because of the pandemic, amounting to more than 500,000 lost jobs in construction, according to a survey conducted by the Associated General Contractors of America. However, the industry

has continued to add jobs since then, and the Construction Career Board is intended to help employers and workers find each other.

"Construction has been greatly impacted by the pandemic, and Procore wants to support the industry as best we can," Procore CEO Tooey Courtemanche said in a statement.

The Construction Career Board is available at procoreconstruction jobboard.birddoghr.com.

