

# TECHNICAL ADVISORY BULLETIN



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From North America's  
Largest Roofing Manufacturer!™

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

From: Technical Services Department

**Subject: Asphaltic Oil Staining On New Shingles**

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## **What Is Asphaltic Oil Staining**

Asphaltic oil staining refers to small amounts of dark colored oils that temporarily appear on granules causing some shingles to have a darker visual appearance.

## **What Causes Oil Staining?**

Asphaltic oils are naturally present in all asphalts. Staining does not occur during the manufacturing process but can occur in storage. The possibility of asphaltic oil staining increases when shingles are stored in hot conditions and/or for extended periods of time.

## **What NOT To Do!**

- **Do not...** rinse the roof from the ground with a hose because this can drive water under the shingles. Wet roofs are slippery, so rinsing from the roof top is also not recommended. It is best to allow the asphaltic oil staining to rinse off naturally.
- **Do not...** use high pressure sprays that could damage the shingle.
- **Do not...** use chemical washes as you may loosen the granule surfacing or damage the asphaltic coating.

## **Will The Oil Staining Damage The Shingles?**

**No.** This is a cosmetic issue and will not affect the performance or long term appearance of the shingles. Once the asphaltic oil staining has weathered-out, the shingles' original color will be restored.



Staining Before Weathering



Staining After Weathering

## **Does Asphaltic Oil Staining Affect The Warranty?**

**No.** The GAF Shingle Limited Warranty remains in effect.

## **What Can I Do To Minimize The Possibility of Oil Staining?**

- Use "first-in, first-out" stock rotation policies.
- Follow GAF's recommendations for proper shingle storage. (**Technical Advisory Bulletin TAB-R-2011-122**)
- In an effort to avoid immediate call-backs due to asphaltic oil staining, install bundles with date codes as close together as possible. (**Technical Advisory Bulletin TAB-R-2011-129**)

## **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) to find the latest information on our products and their installation.

**Important:** This document supersedes any prior GAF Technical Advisory Bulletins on this topic. Please always check [www.gaf.com](http://www.gaf.com) to make sure you have the most up to date information.