“City of Norfolk Permit Unnecessary for Roof Repair”

If you’re one of the many whose home or business sustained damage from Monday’s hail storm, City of Norfolk officials recommend that you get the repairs done as quickly as possible while also taking some precautions.

“Your first priority is to get the damaged roof or siding covered with tarp or plastic so as not to incur water damage to your structure interior. The next is to contact your insurance company so they can assess the damage and give you information as to repairs that are needed to not only the roof but possibly the gutters or siding. From there you will then want to find a licensed construction company who will get your repairs done in a timely manner,” said Steve Nordhues, City of Norfolk Prevention Division Building Official.

Nordhues said that there is no City of Norfolk permit needed for re-roofing or re-siding a building in the city. Roofers who have a permanent business in Norfolk and those who set up shop in the city temporarily to do roof work are not required to be registered with the city.

“We recommend that you contact the Better Business Bureau for information about any business you are not familiar with. Unfortunately there are unscrupulous people who take advantage of a community’s misfortune. Do your research and make sure it’s a reputable company you’re working with,” Nordhues said.

Although no city inspection or permit is needed for a re-roofing, the city code does require that there be only one layer of shingles on a home. If that layer of shingles is damaged, it must be removed before the new layer of shingles is laid.

“The first layer of shingles, especially if it’s damaged, is not as solid as the new shingles. The only time you could leave the first layer of shingles on is if you laid a metal roof over the top.” Nordhues said.

He added that the minimum standard for roof repair will ultimately need to be worked out between the contractor, the home or business owner and the insurance company.