

LAND

Are You Getting a New Roof?

Have you ever wondered what happens to your old roof when you replace it with a new one? Old shingles are supposed to be taken to a permitted landfill or recycler. Unfortunately, that doesn't always happen.

In Oklahoma, hail and wind storms are a fact of life. Often, these storms force residents to replace their roof. When your roof gets replaced, the old shingles are required to be properly disposed of at an approved landfill or recycler and not illegally dumped.

Why should I be concerned about illegal shingle dumps?

Unfortunately, illegal shingle dumps are becoming more prevalent across Oklahoma. These dumps often occur along creek banks or in low lying areas, making the shingles susceptible to being washed downstream when the water level rises. The shingles may be subject to wildfires or illegal burning, releasing toxins to the air, land and water. Illegal dumping is detrimental to Oklahoma's natural beauty.

What can I do?

Old shingles must be properly disposed of at a landfill or recycler permitted by the Department of Environmental Quality. Your roofing contractor should know where these permitted landfills or recyclers are located. You can also get a list of permitted landfills by contacting your local DEQ office.

You should discuss the disposal of your shingles with your contractor to make sure they'll be disposed of properly. Obtaining copies of receipts to verify the disposal from your roofing contractor will help



document the disposal. Home insurance policies provide for proper shingle disposal. Contact your insurance company for details.

In the event of illegal shingle dumping, both the dumper and the landowner will be required to clean up and properly dispose of the shingles.

To keep your shingles from becoming an unsightly scar on Oklahoma's beautiful landscape:

1. Talk to your roofer about proper shingle disposal. Ask the roofer where your shingles will be disposed.
2. Insist the shingles be properly disposed of at a DEQ approved landfill or recycler.
3. Ask your roofer for receipts from the landfill or recycler for the disposal of your shingles.
4. Discuss proper shingle disposal with your neighbors to get the word out.
5. Report illegal shingle dumping by call the 24-hour DEQ hotline at 1-800-522-0206.