

# NOW THAT YOU HAVE A NEW FIRESTONE ROOFING SYSTEM...

Congratulations on your purchase of a Firestone Roofing System! Your new roof is a valuable asset and as such should be properly maintained. All components of the building envelope require periodic maintenance to perform as designed. "Building Envelope Care And Maintenance Guide" printed on the back of your Firestone Limited Warranty contains a number of important items to assist you in maintaining a watertight building for many years. These maintenance guidelines recommend that the building envelope be inspected at least twice yearly. Although this inspection can be performed by any qualified person selected by you, **Firestone recommends that at least one inspection every year be conducted by the Firestone Licensed Applicator who installed your roof.** 

Whenever an inspection of the roof is performed, Firestone recommends that the following items be included:

# 1. ROOF CONDITIONS REQUIRING PERIODIC INSPECTION:

Periodic inspection of the following items is very important to assure that the Firestone Roofing System has not been exposed to conditions not covered by Firestone's Limited Warranty:

- a. Roof Traffic & Walkways: The Firestone Roofing System is designed to be a waterproofing component—not a traffic bearing component of the building envelope. As stated in Firestone's System Design Instructions for all Firestone Roofing Systems, "Walkways help protect the membrane from damage due to necessary roof-top service traffic." Please note that walkways should be maintained at all roof access points, around all mechanical equipment which requires maintenance and at all areas where roof traffic more frequent than once a month is anticipated. If, because of traffic requirements, walkways need to be installed on your roof, contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator before proceeding.
- b. Discharges: All components of the Firestone roof system must be protected from discharges, such as petroleum products, greases, oils and fats, acids and the like. If the building will have any such discharges, please contact Firestone for suggested methods of protection. If, because of the presence of chemical discharges, protection measures are recommended, contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator before proceeding.

- c. Ponding Water: Proper maintenance and good roofing practice suggests that ponded water (defined as standing water on the roof forty-eight (48) hours after it stops raining) should not be allowed on the roof. Roofs should have slope to drain and all drain areas should remain clean. If ponded water areas are observed on the roof that cannot be corrected by periodic cleaning of drain areas, contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator for suggestions.
- d. Storms: The building envelope should be inspected after any severe storm, especially after any storm that involves high sustained winds, heavy wind gusts or tornado-like conditions. All roof surfaces should be inspected for damage caused by wind-blown debris. The roof also should be inspected after any hail or ice storm which could have damaged the roofing system. If storm-related damage to the roof system is observed, contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator before proceeding.
- e. Moisture Infiltration: It is very important to inspect the roofing system for moisture infiltration from sources excluded by Firestone's Limited Warranty. These sources can include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Latent moisture in a pre-existing roofing system or roof insulation remaining beneath the Firestone Roofing System.
  - 2. Moisture infiltration in or through building walls, copings, mortar joints and roof-top equipment.
  - 3. Condensation of water vapor within the roofing system due to temperature and humidity differentials.

Because inspection for moisture infiltration requires professional roofing experience, Firestone recommends that this inspection be performed by a Firestone Licensed Applicator at least once a year.

## 2. NON-FIRESTONE MATERIALS:

In some instances, non-Firestone supplied materials are used in conjunction with Firestone Roofing Systems. These materials may include, but are not limited to the following items:

- a. Locally-fabricated sheet metal flashings.
- b. Non-Firestone sealants at roof terminations.
- c. Non-Firestone roof insulations.
- d. Non-Firestone insulation fastening devices, including but not limited to roofing screws, insulation plates, construction adhesives and roofing asphalt.

- e. Preservative-treated wood nailers and blocking.
- f. Roof drains and drain inserts.
- g. Pre-fabricated roof curbs.
- h. Concrete walkway or ballast pavers.
- i. Stone ballast.
- j. Non-Firestone roof coatings.

Because such items are not warranted by Firestone, it is important to establish an ongoing inspection and maintenance program to assure that the performance of non-Firestone materials does not adversely affect the weathertight integrity of the Firestone roofing system. Sheet metal items should be checked for weathertightness and re-anchored/recaulked as needed. Nailers and blocking should be checked for soundness, and replaced or re-secured if necessary. Roof drains and drain inserts should be cleared of any debris. Sealants should be inspected for shrinking or cracking and replaced as required. The integrity of roof insulation and insulation attachments should be verified. Walkway pavers should be checked for deterioration due to freeze/thaw conditions. In addition, all ballasted roofs should be inspected for localized wind displacement of the ballast, especially along perimeter roof areas. In the event ballast displacement is observed, the ballast should be carefully re-dispersed uniformly and the addition of larger ballast stones should be considered.

## 3. FIRESTONE PRODUCTS REQUIRING PERIODIC INSPECTION:

Although Firestone products do not necessarily require periodic maintenance to assure long-term performance, periodic inspection is very important to assure that these products have not been exposed to conditions excluded by Firestone's Limited Warranty:

a. The **Firestone Roofing Membrane** should be inspected for tears or punctures caused by wind storms, falling objects, roof traffic and the like. If the Firestone membrane is supplied with a factory applied coating, such as roofing granules, the coating should be inspected for any discontinuities caused by abrasion from wind, roof traffic or other sources. **Tears, punctures and abrasions to the membrane must be repaired by a Licensed Firestone Applicator using Firestone specified repair procedures.** 

In addition, the membrane should be inspected for any contamination from discharges, such as petroleum products, greases, oils and fats, acids and the like. If any such discharges are observed on the membrane, please contact Firestone for suggested methods of protection. If, because of the presence of chemical discharges, protection measures are recommended by Firestone, contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator before proceeding.

b. **Firestone Wall Flashings** also should be inspected for tears, punctures, abrasion and contamination from discharges, following the same procedures as for the Firestone Roof Membrane.

#### 4. INSPECTIONS AND SAFETY:

Inspection of any building envelope should be undertaken only by qualified persons who are familiar with safe practices, including all applicable occupational health and safety regulations relating to roofing and construction. **Firestone recommends that all roof inspections be performed by a Firestone Licensed Applicator or a similar roofing professional.** 

### 5. ARRANGING FOR PERIODIC INSPECTIONS:

Please note that the cost of periodic inspections, either by your Firestone Licensed Applicator or by any other roofing professional, are not included in the cost of your Limited Warranty. Firestone recommends that you contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator to obtain a proposal for inspection and maintenance services.

Firestone feels that the preceding recommendations will help you maintain a watertight building for many years. To maximize your return on your building investment, appropriate care is essential. Whenever you have questions concerning your roofing system, do not hesitate to contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator or your local Firestone Sales Representative.

### 6. ADDITION OF PHOTOVOLTAIC (PV), GARDEN, OR SIMILAR SYSTEMS:

Not all roofing systems are configured in a way that allows them to accept photovoltaic (PV) systems, garden systems, or other above-membrane additions. Prior to installing any systems over your Firestone roofing membrane, you must contact Firestone Quality Building Services group at 1-800-428-4511 for review of the roofing system's readiness for accepting above-membrane systems.

Firestone feels that the preceding recommendations will help you maintain a watertight building for many years. To maximize your return on your building investment, appropriate care is essential. Whenever you have questions concerning your roofing system, do not hesitate to contact your Firestone Licensed Applicator or your local Firestone Sales Representative.

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