



Oregon Construction Contractors Board
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**CCB alert to homeowners:
Be prepared before high winds and rain hit**

The Construction Contractors Board (CCB) wants to prepare Oregon homeowners who could experience damage from the strong winds and rain that is expected to hit Oregon's valley and coastal areas to be cautious of thieves pretending to be legitimate contractors. Homeowners whose homes and other property are damaged in storms are prime targets.

"Don't get taken in by scam artists going door to door, says Craig P. Smith, CCB Administrator. "The stress caused by storm damage can cause homeowners to fall prey to dishonest individuals seeking to take advantage of an already bad situation."

Homeowners can easily check with the CCB to make sure the contractor is properly licensed through the agency website www.oregon.gov/CCB, or 503-378-4621.

It is important to verify a contractor's CCB license before paying any money or signing a home repair contract. A CCB license offers some financial protection to consumers through the business' bond and insurance.

Never pay the full amount up front and don't pay in cash. Make sure to write your check out to the business name that you have contracted with to do your repair.

"If Oregon experiences areas of heavy damage, CCB Field Investigators will be dispatched to watch for unscrupulous individuals," says Smith.

The CCB is the state agency licensing more than 36,000 contractors. Anyone who is paid to repair, improve or build a home must be licensed by the CCB. Free consumer publications with helpful tips are available at the CCB's website and 503-378-4621.

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