

## GETTING A WRITTEN CONTRACT

- The contractor's name, street address and phone number.
- The payment schedule for the contractor, subcontractors and suppliers. An estimated start and completion date.
- A detailed description of the work to be performed and of all materials.
- Warranties, if any, covering materials and workmanship. The names and addresses of the parties honoring the warranties — contractor, distributor or manufacturer — should be identified. The length of the warranty period and any limitations also should be spelled out.
- A written statement of your right to cancel the contract within three business days if the solicitation and sale is at a location other than the seller's permanent place of business. During the sales transaction, the salesperson (contractor) must give you two copies of a cancellation form (one to keep and one to send back to the company) and a copy of your contract or receipt. The contract or receipt must be dated, show the name and address of the seller, and explain your right to cancel.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

- If a deal sounds too good to be true, then it probably is.
- Be skeptical of any contractor who arrives in an unmarked truck or van, with little equipment, and/or out-of-state license plates.
- Be aware of contractors who will not give you time to get other estimates, or who tell you that he or she cannot come back another time because of another job in another town.
- If you are suspicious of what someone is telling you, call the police. It is better to be safe than sorry.



New Hampshire  
Department of Justice

Office of the Attorney General

Consumer Protection & Antitrust Bureau

[www.doj.nh.gov/consumer](http://www.doj.nh.gov/consumer)

or

Call your Local Police Department

*What to do  
if you  
are a*



**VICTIM  
OF A  
PAVING  
SCAM**

## HOW TO SPOT A DRIVEWAY PAVER SCAM

Legitimate contractors do not seek work door-to-door.

These cons offer a great low price and claim they have just enough asphalt left over from another job nearby. Because the work must be done “immediately”, the victim is coerced into having that particular repair crew do the work, with no opportunity to investigate.



The victim may also be required to give a substantial down payment for the work to begin. In turn they use substandard materials and perform shoddy workmanship.

They are usually polite and persuasive and drive nice work vehicles.

Sometimes people will find that they have been charged many times the true cost of the materials and labor for work that was done.

## READ THESE TIPS BEFORE HIRING A PAVING CONTRACTOR

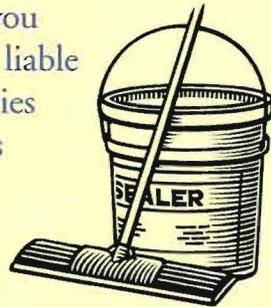
Get several estimates; ask friends and relatives for recommendations.

Have the contractors come out to inspect the site and quote prices **in writing** describing the work to be done, payment schedule, start date and estimated completion date.

Ask for references and **check them**.

Make sure the pavers are properly insured; ask for a certificate of insurance before work begins or payment is made. Avoid doing business with contractors who don't carry the appropriate insurance.

Otherwise, you may be held liable for any injuries and damages that occur during the project.



## WATCH FOR THESE RED FLAGS

- ❏ Door-to-door solicitations.
- ❏ Unsolicited offers to do paving work.
- ❏ Claims of leftover material.
- ❏ High pressure sales tactics.
- ❏ Paving scam con artists who are reluctant to sign a written contract or estimate.
- ❏ Demand for payment in cash.
- ❏ Does not list a business number in a local telephone directory.
- ❏ Offers exceptionally long guarantees.
- ❏ Only accepts cash payment.
- ❏ Asks you to pay for the entire job up front.

