Knoxville Homeowners Advised to Watch for Excessive Shingle Granule Loss as Seasonal Weather Changes

Knoxville homeowners cleaning their gutters this fall may discover more than leaves, sticks and the seemingly endless supply of East Tennessee debris


granles

KNOXVILLE, TN, UNITED STATES, September 15, 2026 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Tony's Roofs Explains Why Shingle Granules Collect in Knoxville Homeowners' Gutters

Knoxville Roofing Company Highlights When Granule Loss Is Normal and When It May Signal an Aging or Damaged Roof

Knoxville homeowners cleaning their gutters this fall may discover more than leaves, sticks and the seemingly endless supply of East Tennessee debris. A layer of course, dark material collecting inside gutters or beneath downspouts may actually be granules coming from asphalt roof shingles.

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>
> *Jacqueline Lane*

While some granule loss is a normal part of a roof's life cycle, excessive or sudden granule loss can indicate aging shingles, storm damage or other roofing concerns that deserve closer attention.

According to Jacqueline Lane, Owner and Operator of Tony's Roofs in Knoxville, Tennessee, homeowners frequently notice the granules without realizing what they are or why they matter.

"People will tell us they cleaned their gutters and found what looks like black sand in the bottom," Lane said. "Those are often shingle granules. A little granule loss doesn't automatically

mean there's a major roofing problem, but when the amount suddenly increases, the roof may be telling a homeowner it's time to take a closer look."

Asphalt shingles are manufactured with a protective layer of mineral granules across their surface. In addition to providing color and texture, the granules help shield the asphalt from ultraviolet radiation and everyday weather exposure.

That protection can be particularly important in East Tennessee, where roofing systems experience summer heat, humidity, heavy rain, thunderstorms, high winds, occasional hail, freezing temperatures and significant temperature changes throughout the year.

"Our weather likes to keep everybody guessing, and roofs don't get the luxury of coming inside when the forecast changes," Lane said. "They're exposed to everything Tennessee throws at them, year after year."

Some granule loss is expected, particularly on recently installed asphalt shingles. loose granules remaining from the manufacturing process may wash into gutters during the first several rain events. Older shingles also gradually shed granules as part of normal aging.

Concern increases when granule accumulation becomes unusually heavy or appears alongside other signs of deterioration.

Homeowners may notice bald or dark areas on shingles, curling or cracking, missing shingles, exposed asphalt or large piles of granules around downspout exits. Significant granule loss following a hailstorm or high-wind event may also warrant an inspection.

Improper cleaning techniques can contribute to the problem as well.

"Pressure washers are great pieces of equipment, but an asphalt roof isn't a driveway," Lane said. "Aggressive pressure washing can remove protective granules and potentially damage shingles. Roof cleaning needs to be performed using methods appropriate for the roofing material."

Tony's Roofs advises homeowners that finding granules does not automatically mean the entire roof needs to be replaced.

The appropriate solution depends on the roof's age, overall condition and extent of deterioration. Localized damage may be repairable. Some aging asphalt roofing systems that remain structurally sound may qualify for roof rejuvenation. In other cases, widespread granule loss combined with brittle, cracked or deteriorating shingles may indicate that replacement is becoming the more practical long-term option.

"The important question isn't simply, 'Are there granules in my gutter?'" Lane said. "The question is what the rest of the roof looks like. At Tony's Roofs, the goal is to determine what the

homeowner actually needs—whether that's maintenance, a repair, rejuvenation or eventually a replacement."

Lane encourages Knoxville-area homeowners who notice a significant change in the amount of granules around their homes to have the roof evaluated rather than waiting for a visible leak.

"Gutters aren't very exciting, but sometimes they give homeowners the first warning that something is changing overhead," Lane said. "Catching those signs early can provide more options and help prevent a manageable roofing problem from becoming an expensive surprise."

About Tony's Roofs

Tony's Roofs is a locally owned and operated roofing and exterior home improvement company serving Knoxville and communities throughout East Tennessee. Backed by more than 40 years of roofing experience, the company provides roof repairs, roof replacements, metal roofing, roof rejuvenation, gutters, siding, fascia, soffit, decks and related exterior services. Tony's Roofs focuses on honest evaluations, quality workmanship and helping homeowners understand their options before making major home improvement decisions.

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