

# STORMWATER

Tip of the Week

Week 71: April 27, 2021

## WHY ARE GUTTERS ARE SO IMPORTANT?



### WHY DO I NEED GUTTERS?

Your home's gutters are very important. Gutters are responsible for funneling the water off of the roof and away from your home. This ensures that you have the protection on your home as well as your walkways for friends and family. When water is funneled away from your home, you have the ability to protect the siding, windows, doors, and most importantly foundation. Without gutters rain runoff will fall directly down against your home, seeping into the ground against your foundation. This can cause your foundation to crack over time. Also the rain runoff could kill any landscaping you have along your home under the drip line of your roof. But it is also very important to properly maintain your homes gutters.

### WHY KEEP THEM CLEAN?

When your gutters are full of debris or even worse, completely clogged you run a great risk of damaging your roof and foundation, flooding your yard, killing your landscaping, housing pests or wildlife in the debris, and it can harm the value of your home

### CLEANING YOUR GUTTERS

Cleaning your gutters regularly, even if you have gutter guards is a great way to prep for incoming rain storms. It is ideal to clean your gutters at least twice a year to clear off spring and fall foliage. You can hire a service to clean your gutters, but doing it yourself can save you \$100 or more. However, only take on this task if you can work safely from a ladder or the roof. If your roof is higher than a single story, you're better off hiring a gutter-cleaning pro.



### DIY GUTTER CLEANING TIPS

It 's best to only DIY a one story, low sloped roof. Use a sturdy ladder and always use caution when climbing.

Scoop out loose debris and clear abstractions in the drain-pipes. Dispose of the waste properly.