



# Dakota Asphalt Pavement Association Inc.

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September 4, 2009

## **Press Release (Immediate Release)**

One of the top ranked consumer home improvement scams is the false marketing and promotion of driveway construction or driveway maintenance with hot mix asphalt pavement. The Better Business Bureau ranks contractor scams overall as their #1 complaint. The following recent headlines attest to this fact:

### ***"Beware of summer scams"***

Sterling (Colorado) Journal-Advocate Posted: 07/15/2008 12:07:00 AM MDT

*"...These scams involve people we can see and who try to get us to trust them. They are "traveling salesmen," who show up at our doorsteps with various home-improvement offers. One currently making the rounds in northeast Colorado is the asphalt paving scam.*

*These scammers usually show up unannounced, often claiming to have some asphalt left over from a previous paving job. Property owners can supposedly get a special deal on the asphalt, but only if they act right away. And the special deal is usually available only if the property owner is willing to pay up front in cash.*

*People who agree to these asphalt paving deals are often left with shoddy workmanship or nothing. Often, the salesman and customer's money are never seen again, nor is the promised asphalt."*

### ***"BBB (Better Business Bureau) warns about recent scams"***

Richmond (Kentucky) Register Posted: 8/13/2009

*"... Reports continue from central Kentucky homeowners being visited by traveling workers offering various home improvement work at low prices, especially driveway paving or seal coating...Homeowners who said "yes" to these unsolicited offers have reported paying a lot of money for unfinished work and inability to contact the worker for recourse."*

It has come to our attention that several "new" asphalt contractors have recently appeared in North and South Dakota and the surrounding area. Consumer information and research is key in preventing substandard work. The Dakota Asphalt Pavement Association, representing 85 companies who do business in North and South Dakota, offers advice to protect the consumer and avoid these scams with the attached "**Consumer Tips - Commercial Hot Mix Asphalt Paving, A Checklist for a Successful Project**". It can also be viewed or downloaded at the Dakota Asphalt Pavement Association web page, [www.dakota-asphalt.org](http://www.dakota-asphalt.org).

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