**CONSUMERS BEWARE: DOOR-TO-DOOR ASPHALT SALES SCAMS MAY TURN DRIVEWAY RESURFACING INTO COSTLY PROJECT**

***Low-Price Offers Usually Tied to Poor Quality, Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association Warns***

**DENVER (May, 2011) –** The Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association (CAPA) is urging Colorado consumers to beware of a scam involving door-to-door salesmen offering unbelievably low-cost quotes on asphalt paving for driveways.

Recently, CAPA received reports of salesmen offering to pave driveways for very low costs, claiming to use asphalt "left over" from a larger paving job. The reports have been in the Jefferson County area as well as in mountain communities surrounding Silverthorne, Grandby, Salida and Southern Colorado small communities. Such door-to-door scams typically result in less-than-satisfied consumers who end up paying for inferior work that often must be replaced.

***"Reputable contractors don't peddle asphalt door-to-door. These scams usually result in being swindled by contractors who are here today, gone tomorrow,"*** said Thomas Peterson, executive director of CAPA, the industry trade association for the $500 million per year asphalt industry of Colorado.

"In asphalt paving you definitely get what you pay for. We urge consumers to check out the companies making these offers, to make sure the company is reputable and will build a quality project for a fair price," Peterson added.

To avoid being swindled by driveway repaving scams, CAPA and its members offer a six warning signs:

1. ***Claims that it's "leftover" asphalt.*** Asphalt is never left over from a project. Leftover hot-mix asphalt would be too cold to place properly, while cold mix is used exclusively for small patches, not general paving. Asphalt is a perishable product and if it cools too much it is useless as a hot mix paving product.
2. ***Deals that seem "too good to be true."*** If the quoted price seems very low, chances are the quality of the work will be low as well.

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3. ***Cash-only terms***. Most reputable contractors take checks, and don't require cash-only terms.
4. ***"One-time offer" price quotes.*** Reputable contractors will provide a quote before doing any work so that the homeowner has a chance to shop around.
5. ***Door-to-door sales***. It's worth repeating: reputable asphalt contractors do not sell their products door-to-door. Consumers should be very suspicious of anyone appearing at their front doors offering low-cost asphalt.
6. ***Vehicles with out of State license plates.*** This type of scam many times will be run by persons traveling through our area from other states. The big equipment may be licensed in Colorado, but many times the smaller equipment (pickups, and trailers) will be licensed in other states.

If you suspect you have been scammed or contacted by a scam-artist, contact your local Better Business Bureau or CAPA, at 303-741-6150. The association also provides a list of its members, all of them reputable, long-term Colorado contractors, on its Web site, www.co-asphalt.com.

**About the Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association**

**The Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association (CAPA) is a not-for-profit association representing more than 200 member organizations in Colorado. CAPA promotes and publicizes the use of quality asphalt in Colorado and encourages fair methods of contracting. CAPA operates the Rocky Mountain Asphalt Education Center and administers the Laboratory for Certification of Asphalt Technicians. The CAPA facility includes a classroom and a fully operational asphalt mixture laboratory. The education curriculum includes courses on asphalt mixture design, quality control/quality assurance testing and hot mix asphalt construction.**

**CAPA is the asphalt industry voice working with the Colorado Department of Transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration, local agencies and others throughout the State of Colorado.**

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