

SIDING vs the SUN

Thermally Distorted Vinyl Siding

We asked Minh Vu one of our favorite homeowners and Owner/Operator of M Gen Contracting to share his knowledge with us on what thermally distorted vinyl siding is and how it can be prevented.

What happened to the siding on this home?

MINH: That is thermal distortion on the siding caused by solar reflection. The sunlight hits the neighbors' window and since the window doesn't move and has a Low E reflective coating on the glass, all of the reflected sunlight is concentrated in the exact same spots on the wall and bakes and warps the vinyl. Very common in our area where homes are close to one another and are in close proximity at an angle where the sunlight can hit it.

Is this preventable?

MINH: It is actually a pretty easy fix. If the neighbors have removed their window screens, they just need replace them on the window. A screen over the window helps with the reflection. If it is a window that has a half screen and the top glass is causing the reflection, it can be tinted with an anti-reflective film. The tricky part however, is having the conversation with the neighbors and deciding who will pay for it.



Is this something that homeowners insurance typically covers?

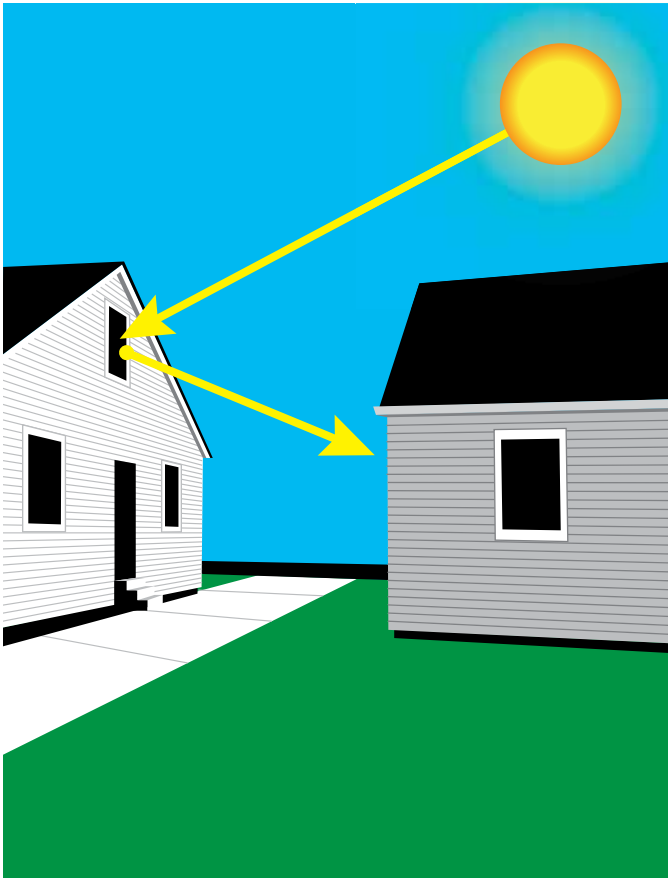
MINH: It may, but most policies have a deductible of \$500-1000 and the repair cost for damage similar to the one in the photo would be just a bit more than that so I don't think it'd worth it for a homeowner to file a claim.

What should homeowners know when it comes to replacing their damaged siding?

MINH: When replacing the damaged siding, the new siding will not match the current siding 100% due to weathering and fading. Most of the homes in our South Riding neighborhood have the original builder's siding so getting a close match is not difficult and any color differences usually fade into uniformity within 6-12 months.

We want to thank Minh for taking the time to share his knowledge and experience with us.

If you wish to collaborate on an educational article similar to this please send an email to kfelouzis@southeriding.net to start the conversation.



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