



Taylor Exteriors & Construction

Des Moines' Choice for Premium Exterior Protection

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After Storms, Watch Out for Scams

Federal Communications Commission Consumer Guide

■ Storm scammers use phone, text, email, mail, and door-to-door visits to target vulnerable homeowners. Here is how to stay safe.

Contractor & Insurance Scams

- Contractors may claim to be 'partners' with your insurance provider — verify before sharing any information
- Never give out your policy number or coverage details unless a contract is already in place
- Your insurance company will alert you before sending any contractor or adjuster to your home
- If a contractor shows up unsolicited, do not sign anything or make any payment
- Verify a contractor's license through your state's online database before agreeing to work

Phone, Text & Email Scams After a Storm

- Anyone claiming to be a government official who asks for money is an imposter
- Government agencies (FEMA, SBA) never call or text asking for financial account information
- There is NO FEE to apply for FEMA or SBA disaster assistance
- Workers who knock on your door are required to show official ID — demand to see it
- If someone calls claiming to be a government official, hang up and call the official agency number
- Do not click links or open attachments in suspicious emails requesting donations or assistance

Charity Scams — What To Watch For

- ✓ Donate only to **trusted, well-known charities** through their official websites
- ✓ Verify at **Give.org** (BBB Wise Giving), **CharityNavigator.org**, or **CharityWatch.org**
- ✓ Be wary of charities with names very similar to well-known organisations
- ✓ Avoid solicitors using high-pressure tactics or unwilling to provide detailed information
- ✓ Always verify phone numbers independently — never call a number given by a solicitor

Report Scams

FCC: consumercomplaints.fcc.gov | 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322)

FEMA Fraud Hotline: 1-866-720-5721 | StopFEMAFraud@fema.dhs.gov

FTC: ReportFraud.ftc.gov

Source: Federal Communications Commission — fcc.gov/consumers/guides/after-storms-watch-out-scams | Summarised for informational purposes by Taylor Exteriors & Construction