

## Beware of home-improvement transients

As sure as the summer brings tourists to Wisconsin, it also brings transient home improvement workers and scams. And these rip-off artists will probably hit your community.

Transient contractors specialize in blacktopping driveways, installing lightning rods, painting, and siding.

Their work and materials are inferior and they are likely to steal from you.

A consumer who pays for what he thinks is a bargain price for blacktopping may soon have dandelions growing through his driveway. Homes may need repainting after the next rainfall.

Or the cost of the job may rise considerably after the work is performed, and the consumer may be intimidated into paying the increase.

Transients hit an area, take the money, and run. Frequently they know the quickest route to the banks in your area to cash checks.

If transients come to your door:

- Don't give into their high-pressure tactics.
- Don't let them in your home. They are experts at finding and taking valuables.
- Determine the make and model of their vehicles and get license plate

numbers, and alert local law enforcement.

- Call the police immediately if they begin to do a job without your authorization.

For more information, or to file a complaint, contact the Bureau of Consumer Protection at:

**(800) 422-7128**

**FAX: (608) 224-4939**

**TTY: (608) 224-5058**

**E-MAIL:**  
[datcpHotline@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:datcpHotline@datcp.state.wi.us)

**WEBSITE:**  
[www.datcp.state.wi.us](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us)

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