

Enviroshake[®] *Testimonials*

Summer 2011

Not All Shingles Are Cedar

The high quality of materials used in the manufacturing of Enviroshake became readily apparent during the very first year of our new roof which was installed back in the summer of 2006.

We live in Metchosin, a small rural municipality on Vancouver Island, British Columbia, lying alongside the Strait of Juan de Fuca. In November of 2006 we had a terrific West Coast windstorm with gusts in excess of 140 KMH. The high winds resulted in considerable Douglas Fir and Cedar blow down as well as a “blizzard” of branches of all sizes covering the Metchosin landscape. While our house is situated in a clearing, it is surrounded by three acres of dense forest. Falling branches and needles pelted the roof all night with an intensity so loud and threatening that my wife elected to take refuge in a hotel in the city of Victoria. I bravely stayed home alone in the basement bedroom of our 4000 sq foot home to take care of our two cats and small flock of backyard chickens and, of course, worry about the possible damage to our pride and joy - the then newly installed Enviroshake roof.

When the winds finally abated the next day, I went on the roof to survey what I was sure would be the resultant damage. To my surprise, after clearing much of the fallen debris, there was absolutely none! Not so much as a crack in one of the shakes could be found. A tough test for our new shingles!!!

Even in 2011, the best compliments we get from friends and neighbors’ concerning the Enviroshake roof is that they don’t realize it’s a new roof at all! Rather they think we had the old cedar shake roof cleaned, treated and moss proofed. You can see from the photo enclosed that the roof of our long, low, West Coast contemporary home is a significant architectural feature as the house is approached from a long, treed, and elevated driveway. This makes the rooftop dramatically noticeable.

Our Enviroshake roof has now been on our house for just over 5 years and looks as good as the day we installed it. I say, “we installed it” as this was a family project completed by my three sons and myself. While it may have taken us a little longer than professional roofers, we were perfectionist in our application and the nearly 4000 sq. ft. of roofing went on beautifully as advertised and with no problems. – Larry Hildreth

I had Enviroshake shingles installed on my saltbox home in Portsmouth RI in 2007. I was the 1st one in my neighborhood to consider a substitute for red cedar shingles. The Sea Meadow Farms neighborhood has 85 colonial homes and has a roof restriction via deed covenants which basically does not allow asphalt roofs. Up to 2007, all roofs were red cedar wood shingles which have a life of only 20-25 years maximum. Since we are a sea side development with heavy moisture and strong winds which really affects life of wood roofs, I needed to find a suitable long life replacement that would closely simulate a red cedar shingle roof. After several years of researching all options, I decided to have Enviroshake shingles installed in summer of 2007. I ordered this product from a distributor in Western Massachusetts who told me I was their first customer in Rhode Island.

My neighbors were very concerned that I was not installing a real wood roof and would negatively affect the look of the neighborhood with my new technology roof. I explained all the advantages of Enviroshake shingles (50 year life warranty, moisture and rot resistant, better fire retardance than wood roof, great rating on wind resistance, and finally great look of thick shake style shingles). My neighbors were still apprehensive but I proceeded since I was convinced the Enviroshake product was the way to go and it met the deed restrictions in my neighborhood. I found a local contractor that was willing to install the Enviroshake roof even though he had no experience with this roofing material. I actually estimated the amount of material myself, ordered it, and provided it to the contractor. I also did the shuffling of the shakes from different bundles to insure a good color mix to not only save money on installation costs but to also speed up the installation since I would shuffle the product the day before installation and even sort out the various mixes of shingle splits. I decided to use Water and Ice Block underlayment over the entire roof to make it completely water tight since it added only a little material cost with no change in installation labor cost. The installation started off slowly due to unfamiliarity with the Enviroshake product but soon went quite quickly after the contractor gained confidence in the installation process. The results were outstanding with a great look upon installation. Since then, the product has weathered nicely with a soft grey look and no evidence of any mold/mildew on product after 4 years of installation. It has also survived many Northeaster windstorms and summer gales with no shingles becoming loose and absolutely water tight.

My neighbors have often stopped by and commented on how great the Enviroshake shingle roof looks even though it is not the traditional wood roof to which the neighbors have been used to seeing. I have had several local contractors stop by and inquire about the roof since it looks so great. I even helped a neighbor select this same Enviroshake roof and helped him estimate the amount of material to be used and supplied him with the distributors telephone and address. His contractor installed the roof with no problems except running out of some stainless steel roofing nails near the end of the installation for which I gave him some left over stainless steel nails from my previous installation.

Overall, I am very satisfied with the Enviroshake roof and strongly recommend it as a cost efficient, long lasting substitute for a traditional cedar wood roof. I also recommend it as a replacement for asphalt architectural shingles that try to simulate wood look which are cheaper to install but do not have the durability and great cedar shake look of Enviroshake. I am currently retired and expect to remain in my home for hopefully many years and am looking forward to not having to face another roof replacement in my lifetime! This certainly gives me a peace of mind that I hope other prospective homeowners would consider when replacing a roof and hopefully considering Enviroshake product. – Peter Minior

“What is that material on your roof?” WOW! It is just PERFECT! We live on this wonderful lake in Pennsylvania and our old house was one of the first five houses ever built at lakefront. It was 1907. So when we remodeled and enlarged our home in 2005 we choose all modern products to reflect the authenticity of a home built by a Civil War veteran. Our new Enviroshake roof is our crowning glory! When we first discovered the ad for the product we could not find a local distributor. After contacting Enviroshake we received a list of the closest homes using this roofing. We traveled two hours to see the product on a newly constructed home. We knew instantly we had to have it! Since 2005, whenever a new visitor arrives and sees our totally restored new/old home the first comment is “What is that on your roof? It’s perfect! WE LOVE OUR ROOF! –David & Mary Jean Tarantini

Approximately 5 years ago we had William Green Roofing of Guelph install our Enviroshake shingles. We have an 1850 stone farm house with four dormers and two porches. It was important that we have an "authentic" look that involves modern technology to ensure that it appears to be a period roof that not only looks good but will last for many decades. After plenty of research we choose Enviroshake and Wm Green to accomplish our goals. The roof looks as good as the day it was installed and we even have people driving up to our house asking about the roof. Unlike steel and other products it does not appear to be a typical suburban cookie-cutter style of roof.

We continue to enjoy the performance and good looks of an Enviroshake roof. –Glen Duff

No one has told us they think our roof is cedar, but we have received many compliments. We simply like the look, whether cedar or not. It has the natural shape and texture of cedar as well as the look of durability. The colour and weathering are close to cedar and the shakes are pleasing in themselves. Our installer was very careful to vary the widths of the shakes in a pleasing manner and judging from other roofs we have seen, this makes a great difference. Unfortunately, our installer found that he spent too much time for the money and I doubt that he will install it again. -Christopher Sparling

We faced the roofing dilemma a couple of years ago and ended up using a product called Enviroshake. This is a composite roofing material, 95%-derived from reprocessed post-industrial polymers. It comes in the form of separate shakes which have to be nailed on. This adds to the cost, for sure, but the product is warranted for 50 years, so you could save money in the long term. An added bonus for us is that Enviroshake are made here in Ontario. I really like the way our roof looks - like weathered, grey-brown, cedar shakes - and we have had lots of compliments on it. You won't get the cedar smell or that blonde look that cedar has when it is first installed, but you will get a fine-looking, long-lasting roof and the happy knowledge that you used recycled materials instead of virgin wood. We are only 2 years in, but the roof looks good as new and we have had no problems with leaks or shifting or anything like that. –Diana Carney

Hello Enviroshake, No one has mentioned that our roof looks like cedar, but we have had several compliments on its overall appearance. We are very pleased because we can rest assured that our house will be well-covered for fifty years, and we've done our part for the environment by keeping conventional replacement shingles out of the landfill. Thank you for a terrific product! -Peter and Katherine Smith

Dear Enviroshake, We're extremely happy with the look and performance of our Enviroshake Roof so far. And we very much like the fact that the shingles are made primarily from recycled materials. Our hope and expectation is that the roof will be sound for many, many years. But it's still too early to know if that will be the case. —James Davidson

I needed to replace the cedar shake shingles on my mansard roof and not change the style and appearance of my home.. We needed something that would go over the lath construction, which was under my cedar shake...After lots of research, we found that the Enviroshake would work as well as give me a long term warranty... We are extremely pleased with this product and it looks cleaner and neater than cedar shake... Many people have asked if this product is cedar shake and of course I have to explain to them that it is "Enviroshake"... -Fran Cohen

The subdivision I live in states in the covenants that all roofs must be real cedar shakes. When I started building I discovered the Enviroshake product and brought forth the proposal to the developer to approve that I could use Enviroshake instead of real cedar, I enforced the fact that real cedar shakes are a fire hazard especially living in the mountains. The subdivision committee signed the approval that I could use Enviroshake. Since then all my neighbors tell me they love my roof and that it looks better over time. They are so surprised that the product is made of recyclable material. They don't understand how something so environmentally friendly can look so great. I love my roof and the fact there is zero maintenance and it is so beautiful. –Mary Lindemann