

# FISCHER HARDWARE NEWSLETTER

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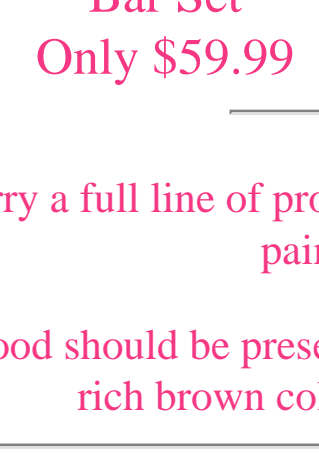
Fischer Hardware Newsletter

June 2009

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Promotion  
Must see to believe!!



3pc Hardwood Bar Set  
Only \$59.99

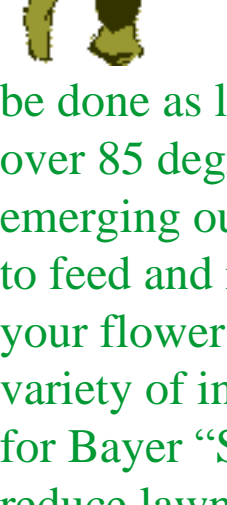


5 Piece Table & Chairs Set  
Only \$159.99

(while supplies last.)

We carry a full line of products to care for all your outdoor furniture needs. Visit our paint department today for expert advice.

\*Hardwood should be preserved with a teak oil or exotic hardwood treatment to keep its rich brown color, or you may let it weather into a natural gray.



## Paul's Garden Corner

AHHHHH June

Most of us have our garden in by now; you still have time for some vegetables, and annuals, but hurry.

Spot spraying for weeds can be done as long as the temperature is not over 85 degrees. Japanese beetles will be emerging out of the ground in early June to feed and mate, be prepared to protect your flowers and vegetables, we carry a variety of insecticides. There's still time for Bayer "Season Long Grub Control" to reduce lawn damage this August and next spring.

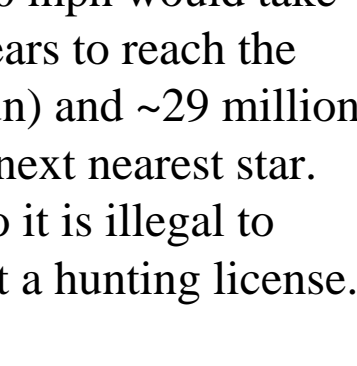
Bag worms are starting to hatch now, spray three successive weekends in June to eliminate damage to evergreens.

Spray dogwoods and other trees and shrubs that may get bores a couple of times in early June to help eliminate this problem.

If you have Zoysia lawns now is the time to use a high nitrogen fertilizer.

Paul

Cockroaches can live for 9 days after their head has been cut off.



The world's largest amphibian is the giant salamander. It can grow up to 5 ft. in length.

The first coast-to-coast telephone line was established in 1914.

A car traveling 100 mph would take more than ~106 years to reach the nearest star (the sun) and ~29 million years to reach the next nearest star.

In Cleveland, Ohio it is illegal to catch mice without a hunting license.



helpful earthchoices

Klean-Strip® Green™ Turpentine is made with 100% renewable resources and is derived from tree resin. It contains no Hazardous Air Pollutants (as defined by the EPA) and no ozone depleting chemicals.



Klean-Strip® Green™, the products that are better for the environment. Klean-Strip® Green™ solvents are effective high quality products but have a reduced impact on the world in which we live. Reduce your carbon footprint with Klean-Strip® Green™

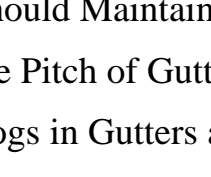
## Home of the Month

### MASTERJACK DRAIN OPENER

Masterjack drain opener is a concentrated powerful drain cleaner that opens drains within minutes.

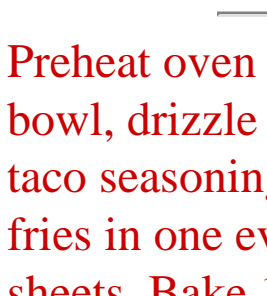
You won't believe your eyes.

As with all drain cleaners follow instructions on container. A full money back guarantee if this doesn't solve your drain problems.



Take a look at us now [www.fischerhardware.com](http://www.fischerhardware.com)

Just click on coupons, specials and promotions for your everyday needs.



### Sweet Potato Fries

- 4 Sweet Potatoes, peeled and sliced in your favorite shape
- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 teaspoons taco seasoning, use one with 40% less sodium

Preheat oven to 425. In a large mixing bowl, drizzle oil over the potatoes. Add taco seasoning mix and toss to coat. Place fries in one even layer on two cookie sheets. Bake 10 minutes, turn and bake 10 more minutes. Fries should be soft on the inside and browned on the outside. Serves six.

Question or Comments

E-mail us at [findit@fisherhardware.com](mailto:findit@fisherhardware.com)

## A Tip or Project for You

### Repairing Downspouts and Gutters

Following are tips and suggestions on how to repair and maintain downspouts and gutters. These ideas can save you a lot of trouble and expense and help you lengthen the life of your gutters and downspouts. Inside this document you will find information about:

- Why You Should Maintain Downspouts and Gutters
- Adjusting the Pitch of Gutters
- Stopping Clogs in Gutters and Downspouts
- Patching Leaks in Gutters
- Maintaining Downspouts

### Step #1

#### WHY YOU SHOULD MAINTAIN DOWNSPOUTS AND GUTTERS

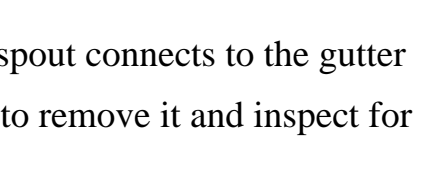
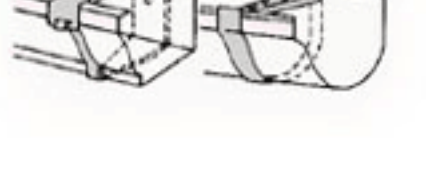
- Taking the time to maintain and repair downspouts and gutters can double or even triple the life of your roof drainage system. This can save you a lot of money on repair costs.
- Inspect your downspouts and gutters about twice a year. Carefully examine them in the spring just before the spring rains. Inspect them again in the fall when leaves, limbs and other debris might cause problems.
- Improper drainage due to poor roof pitch is one of the biggest causes of roof drainage problems. Improper drainage causes water to accumulate in certain spots in the gutters, ultimately building up debris and accelerating rust.
- Clogged gutters and downspouts can also be a big problem. Thoroughly clean all debris from the gutters and downspouts at least twice a year (see image). If there are a number of trees near your home, clean the gutters with a whisk broom even more often than twice a year.
- Rust can be a big problem. Keep the gutters properly cleaned and the pitch set correctly to slow down the rusting process.



### Step #2

#### ADJUSTING THE PITCH OF GUTTERS

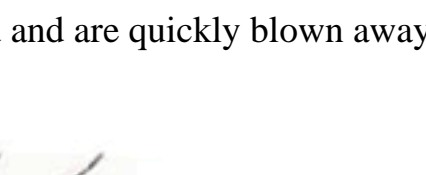
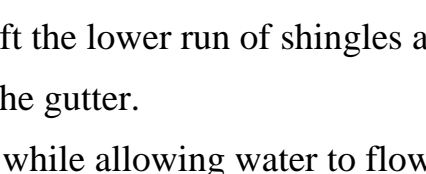
- The gutters on your home should be installed so there is a drop of approximately 1/16" for each 1' of length of gutting.
- You can use a chalk line and a level to take a reading and mark the slope of your gutters. Another way is to pour a bucket of water into the gutter and observe the flow. If it runs off without leaving pools of water in the gutter, the gutter is set properly. If there are low spots, the water will sit in the gutter and locate the trouble spot.
- Ordinarily, the pitch of a gutter can be set in only one direction. However, gutter runs of more than 35' should slant in each direction from the center (see image above). Again, the drop should be set at a rate of 1/16" of fall for each 1' of gutter.
- High or low spots detected in the gutter run can often be corrected by bending the hanger than supports the gutter (see image). A slight bend up or down can often remove the low or high spot.
- Some gutters are installed with spikes and sleeves, sometimes called spikes and ferrules (see image below). You may need to add an additional spike or sleeve to raise or lower the fall of the gutter at any specific point.
- When extra spikes or sleeves are added, use a power drill to make a hole through the gutter before inserting the spike and sleeve.
- Gutters are usually held in place with either spikes and sleeves or hangers.
- There are two basic types of gutter hangers. One is the strap hanger (see image below). This type of hanger supports the gutter with a wraparound strap underneath the gutter. A long strap is then affixed to the top and nailed to the sheathing under the edge of the roof. The roofing material covers the strap, making it totally inconspicuous.
- The bracket hanger is nailed or screwed to the fascia underneath the eave of the roof (see image). Either of these types of hangers can be added as needed to remove high and low spots in a run of gutter. Add braces that match those already in use.



### Step #3

#### STOPPING CLOGS IN GUTTERS AND DOWNSPOUTS

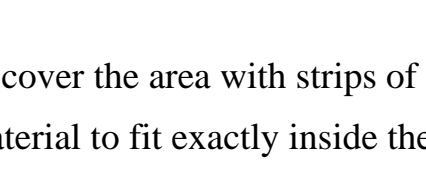
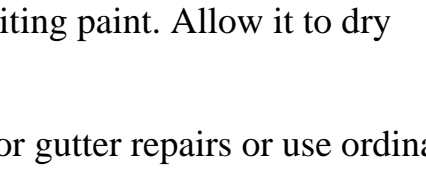
- Clogging usually occurs in a drainage system at the elbow where the downspout connects to the gutter (see image). Since this elbow is relatively easy to remove, it is a good idea to remove it and inspect for clogging.
- If the clogging is not in the elbow, check farther down the downspout.
- You can usually check the downspout from the bottom. However, if the downspout is inserted in an underground tiling system, you may need to use a plumber's or electrician's snake to clean the downspout (see first image below). This type of metal snake can be used to penetrate the downspout for a great distance, removing any obstacles causing clogging and backup problems.
- If your roof drainage system is exposed to falling leaves and debris, you should install leaf strainers in all downspout outlets (see second image below). These strainers insert into the downspout outlet. They permit the free passage of water but stop any leaves or other objects that can cause problems in downspout drainage.
- Leaf strainers are easy to install and are relatively inexpensive.
- You can solve most drainage problems by installing leaf guards over your entire gutter system (see third image below). There are various types of leaf guards available.
- Leaf guards of metal, plastic, etc., are usually mounted in the same way. Lift the lower run of shingles and insert the leaf guard underneath. Some leaf guards clamp over the edge of the gutter.
- The leaf guards hold the leaves and other falling debris on top of the guard while allowing water to flow freely through the drainage system. The leaves then dry on top of the guard and are quickly blown away.



### Step #4

#### PATCHING LEAKS IN GUTTERS

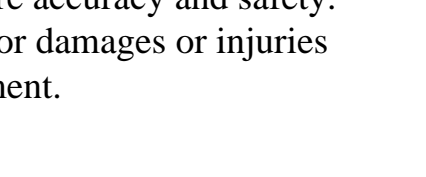
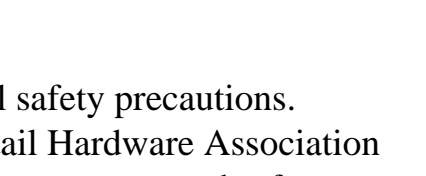
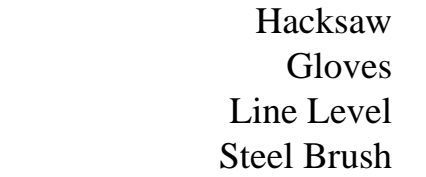
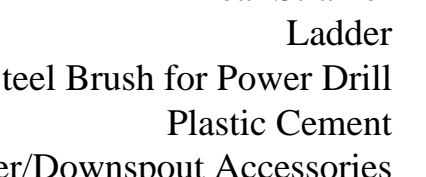
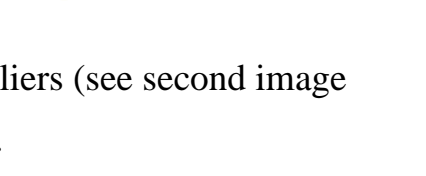
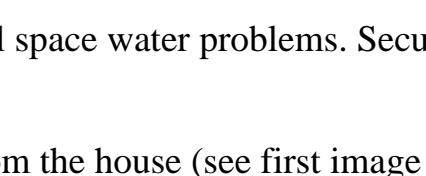
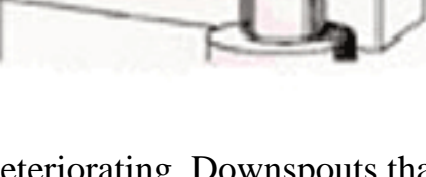
- Any type of gutter will ultimately need some mending or repairing. However, aluminum and plastic gutters and downspouts last much longer than those made of galvanized steel.
- When leaks occur, you may want to totally replace entire sections of the gutter rather than trying to mend them. However, small leaks and rust spots can easily be patched or mended.
- The first step in repairing a rusted and leaky gutter is to scrape off all the rust (see image). Use a steel brush or a 1/4" drill and a power rotary brush.
- Next, cover the area to be repaired with either a rust treatment or rust-inhibiting paint. Allow it to dry thoroughly (see image).
- For small holes, apply a 1/8" thick layer of plastic cement specially made for gutter repairs or use ordinary roof cement (see first image below).
- For larger holes, follow this same procedure. While the cement is still wet, cover the area with strips of heavy aluminum foil or plastic (see second image below). Cut the patch material to fit exactly inside the repaired area.
- Press the patch down tightly into the gutter with a dry cloth. Wear gloves during this part of the repair job.
- When joining two pieces of patch material, overlap it in the direction of the water flow and cement the edges together securely. Be sure the overlap is in the direction of the water flow-otherwise, water may enter at the seam.



### Step #5

#### MAINTAINING DOWNSPOUTS

- Even the best gutter system cannot function properly unless all downspouts are in working order. Take the time to examine your downspout system at the same time you are mending and repairing your gutters.
- If the downspouts drain into an underground tile system, make a careful check at the point where the downspout enters the underground tiling (see image). Make sure it is cemented firmly into place and there is no backup or overflow.
- You can use a plumber's or electrician's snake to clean any possible obstructions in the downspout system.
- Most downspouts empty onto a splash block (see image). Be sure these splash blocks are large enough and high enough to carry the water away from the foundation of the house.
- Check the splash blocks occasionally to make sure they are not broken or deteriorating. Downspouts that pour water around the foundation of the house can cause basement or crawl space water problems. Secure splash blocks remove much of this danger.
- You may need to add extra downspouts to carry water completely away from the house (see first image below).
- You can attach an extra length of downspout at the elbow to continue it as far away from the house as necessary.
- Special roll-up downspout sheets are available that extend themselves when filled with water and roll up when the water is emptied. These perform the same function as an extended downspout, but they avoid the unsightliness of the downspout extended into the yard.
- Add downspout simply by crimping the end of the material with a pair of pliers (see second image below). The new piece of downspout will slip easily into the original piece.



#### TOOL AND MATERIAL CHECKLIST

- |                                  |                              |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Gutter                           | Whisk Broom                  |
| Pliers                           | Leaf Strainer                |
| Leaf Guards                      | Ladder                       |
| Power Drill                      | Steel Brush for Power Drill  |
| Plumber's or Electrician's Snake | Plastic Cement               |
| Splash Block                     | Gutter/Downspout Accessories |
| Heavy Aluminum Foil              | Hacksaw                      |
| Downspout                        | Gloves                       |
| Level                            | Line Level                   |
| Steel Wool                       | Steel Brush                  |
| Paintbrush                       |                              |

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