

CITY OF ASHTABULA  
OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
4717 Main Avenue  
Ashtabula, OH 44004



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CITY MANAGER

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**\*\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\*\***

For Immediate Release - October 9, 2014

For more information, contact:

James Timonere, City Manager at (440) 992-7103

The City of Ashtabula has received complaints from business owners and residents about a potential scam that is taking place within our community.

The City received reports a person by the name of Johnny Young is going door-to-door stating he has "leftover" asphalt from the City's paving project that must be used quickly and offering a discounted price to do driveways and parking lots. The business card he is handing out displays a company name of Asphalt Construction out of Kent, Ohio.

"First, the City will never authorize the use of leftover materials." said Jim Timonere, City Manager. "When I received this person's business card, I did an internet search to see what I could find out about the company and this individual. I quickly realized there was a problem from what I found, specifically Better Business Bureau complaints and a warning issued by the Prosecuting Attorney in County of Summit in October of 2013 for this very same thing."

The warning from the Prosecuting Attorney in Summit County stated "A non-profit organization and several senior citizens said that Mr. Young came to their residence/place of business offering to pave their driveways with "leftover" asphalt. He provided no written cost estimate before paving and started paving immediately. He did not notify the consumers of their right to cancel within three business days."

The warning goes on to say "Consumers said the billed amount was exceptionally high (around \$3,000 to \$8,000) and that the job was done poorly. Also, consumers could not get ahold of Mr. Young after the initial business transaction."

"I want our residents and the community to know this is not right and I'm not going to tolerate it," Timonere said. "Please do not fall victim of this. If you want a reputable company and need work done, call our local companies and our Chambers of Commerce for references. People peddling a product at a cheap price misrepresenting where the material is coming from or that need to go to this extreme to get business are just not worth doing business with. I am outraged a company would do this to our residents and business owners."

*Equal Opportunity Employer*

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July 22, 2013 12:01AM

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## BBB warns about asphalt paving scam

The Better Business Bureau is warning consumers about a scam involving door-to-door salesmen offering low-cost quotes on asphalt paving.

The Better Business Bureau is warning consumers about a scam involving door-to-door salesmen offering low-cost quotes on asphalt paving.

Consumers were approached by a Johnny Young, who operates an asphalt paving business known as Asphalt Construction. A BBB investigation unveiled that the company also does business as JRY Construction, Johnny Asphalt, Johnny Young Asphalt and Construction, William Wells Asphalt Construction Co. and Young & Cooper Asphalt.

Senior citizens and a non-profit organization complained that Young came to their residence and place of business offering to pave their driveways with "leftover" asphalt. He was fast-talking and provided no written cost estimate prior to paving. The consumers' driveways were paved immediately with no notification of their right to cancel within three business days. Consumers complained that the billed amount was substantially more than expected and is anywhere from \$3,000 to \$8,000. Many were surprised that the price was based on square yards and not cubic yards. Consumers also have complained about the poor workmanship of the paving and non-responsiveness by Young after the initial business transaction.

Young has been identified as approximately 5 feet, 10 inches tall, husky, dark-haired, middle-aged and driving a white truck. He has been operating in the greater Akron and Canton areas. His business address has been tied to rental mailboxes in Kent and Stow. His home address appears to be transitorily in Sunset, La.

### To avoid becoming a victim, the BBB says to beware of:

1. A company that knocks on your door claiming to have "leftover" asphalt or other materials. Leftover hot-mix asphalt would be too cold to place properly, while cold mix is used exclusively for small patches, not general paving. Asphalt is a perishable product and, if it cools too much, it is useless as a hot mix paving product.
2. Deals that seem "too good to be true." If the quoted price seems very low, chances are the quality of the work will be low as well.
3. Cash-only terms. Most reputable contractors take checks and don't require cash-only terms.
4. "One-time offer" price quotes. Reputable contractors will provide a quote before doing any work so that the homeowner has a chance to shop around.
5. Door-to-door sales. Reputable asphalt contractors do not sell their products door-to-door. Consumers should be very suspicious of anyone appearing at their front doors offering low-cost asphalt.
6. Vehicles with out-of-state license plates. This type of scam many times will be run by persons traveling from other states.

To find a reputable asphalt contractor, contact the Canton BBB at 330-454-9401, or visit [cantonbbb.org](http://cantonbbb.org) for an online listing of BBB-accredited businesses.

<http://www.cantonrep.com/article/20130722/News/307229852>

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## NORTHFIELD VILLAGE BLOCK WATCH

### BLOCK WATCH:



### Northfield Village Neighborhood Block Watch

[Click here](#) for information.

[Part 1: Block Watch Captain's Guide](#)

[Part 2: Block Watch Business Watch Program](#)

[Part 3: Flyers & Forms](#)

[Appendix 1 Watch Meeting Notification](#)

[Appendix 4 Residential Security Survey](#)

[Appendix 5 Property Inventory Sheet](#)

[Appendix 7 House Check Request Form](#)

[Appendix 8 Northfield Village Police Drug Information Report](#)

[Appendix 9 Northfield Village Police Traffic Complaint Report](#)



### Northfield Village Neighborhood Block Watch

A Community Policing Program

For more info [click here](#).



### BLOCK WATCH EVENTS:

Our next Block Watch Meeting is Wed. May 21st at 6:00pm at Village Hall. Our guest speaker is Jeff D'Annolfo from Homeland Security coming to talk to us about Safer Ohio, and a phone App for our smartphones along with Lt. Mackie also joining us.

Contact info:

Lt. Jamie Mackie - 330.467.7139 #21

### BLOCK WATCH ALERT!

**Door to door salesmen offering low-cost quotes on asphalt paving.**

**ALERT!** From Sherri Bevan Walsh, Prosecuting Attorney, County of Summit  
October 24, 2013

Numerous Akron and Canton consumers have reported a scam involving door-to-door salesmen offering low-cost quotes on asphalt paving. A man claiming to be Johnny Young tells consumers that he operates Asphalt Construction, an asphalt paving business. He has also used the following business names: JRY Construction, Johnny Asphalt, Johnny Young Asphalt and Construction, William Wells Asphalt Construction Co. and Young & Cooper Asphalt.

A non-profit organization and several senior citizens said that Mr. Young came to their residence/place of business offering to pave their driveways with "leftover" asphalt. He provided no written cost estimate before paving and started paving immediately. He did not notify the consumers of their right to cancel within three business days.

Consumers said the billed amount was exceptionally high (around \$3,000 to \$8,000) and that the job was done poorly. Also, consumers could not get ahold of Mr. Young after the initial business transaction.

This is a common scam that aims to steal thousands of dollars from you. Do not accept any offers of work with 'leftover' supplies. To find a reputable contractor, contact the Akron Better Business Bureau at (330) 253-4590.

Source: <http://www.northfieldvillage-oh.gov/blockwatch.htm>