

How Ice Dams Form

- 1** Warm interior air escapes into the attic space. This heat loss causes the roof deck temperature to increase.
- 2** Snow on the warm section of the roof melts until it reaches the cool section of the roof and freezes.
- 3** An ice dam is formed at the roofs edge. The cycle continues and the ice dam can elongate and build up mass.
- 4** Standing water behind the ice dam finds cracks in the roof coverings and leaks into the attic. From there water can damage the roof deck, insulation, ceiling and interior walls.

