Tom Black, Executive Director of the Metal Roofing Alliance answers frequently asked questions about the use of metal roofing in residential applications.

A recent wave of hailstorms resulted in widespread damage to homes and businesses. Hail can break, split and cause tear-off damage to traditional roofing materials, resulting in big repair or replacement costs. Contractors and homeowners have discovered that metal roofs can protect homes from extreme weather events.

“Most of the damage to a traditional roof in a hailstorm is caused by water damage to the contents of the house when shingles are fractured,” said Bill Hippard, President of the Metal Roofing Alliance. “Once a roof has a crack, water can stream into the home, damaging the structure and its contents. Water damage can lead to mold and serious repair bills.”

Metal roofs are very tough and highly resistant to hail damage. Hail will not penetrate a metal roof. Even a new asphalt shingle roof won’t protect a home from the next hailstorm. In fact, many metal roofing products have the highest impact resistance and hail rating (Class 4) granted by Underwriters’ Laboratory (UL). This means that a sample of the product did not crack when hit twice in the same spot by a 2-inch steel ball, which, in a storm, would translate into a huge hailstone. As a result of metal roofing’s superior performance in hail prone areas, some insurance companies even provide a reduced rate for homes protected by metal roofs.

For more information, visit www.metalroofing.com.

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