

Dispelling Misconceptions About Pressure Cleaning

1. Misconception: Pressure washing is easy - I can do it myself.

To an extent, there is some truth to this statement. However, without proper equipment and experience, you can easily damage your home or hurt yourself. Even small consumer grade pressure washing units output too much pressure for surfaces such as vinyl, asphalt shingles and pressure treated wood. Do-it-yourselfers are not likely to know the proper angles for cleaning different structures and may inadvertently cause water damage to their homes.

REALITY: Professional power cleaners have spent many hours learning the nuances of their equipment as well as hours in training. Their equipment has variable pressure options not available on consumer machines.

2. Misconception: High Pressure Is The Only Way To Get It Clean.

Only individuals using inferior cleaners depend on high pressure to do the job. High pressure can do a lot of damage – such as forcing water behind siding, causing mold and mildew problems, or leaving unsightly marks and scars on wood decks. Too much pressure can also reduce the longevity of your roof, by blowing the granules off the shingles.

REALITY: Make sure professional grade cleaners and the right amount of pressure are used.

3. Misconception: Cleaning solutions will harm pets or kill plants.

Quality contractors use only environmentally safe products that will not harm your pets. Plants, however, are more sensitive and need to be protected. If a cleaning solution is allowed to dry on a plant's leaves, it can leave burn spots.

REALITY: Covering plants with plastic is an option, but can also be dangerous to plants on hot days. A better alternative is to wet the plants down with water before, during, and after the cleaning process. As long as cleaners are not allowed to dry on the plants, there should be no damage.