

Snow Load Sampling Procedures

Requirements:

- A length of 4” inside diameter round pipe. Solid PVC sewer pipe works well.
- Have an accurate scale +/- ¼ pound accuracy.
- Square edge shovel.
- Plastic garbage bag.

Procedure:

- Select an area of roof that is representative of the snow over the whole roof. Avoid drifted areas, overhangs, areas under trees, etc...
- Use 4” pipe to take sample. Push pipe straight through to roof and hold in place. Remove snow from the sides of pipe to expose ½ of the pipe. Slip flat edge of shovel under bottom of the pipe. Remove pipe and shovel at the same time, carefully, as not to lose any snow from pipe.
- Empty all of the snow from pipe into plastic bag. Seal plastic bag.
- Weigh plastic bag on an accurate scale. The scale needs to be accurate within ¼ pound.
- Multiply weight by 11 to get actual snow load on roof, in pounds per square foot.