

What Happens When Trash Accumulates on an Underdeck Ceiling?

Any underdeck ceiling runs the risk of accumulated trash over the course of its life. Leaves and twigs will fall through the spaces between the deck boards during a rain. A well designed system will direct this debris to the gutter, to the downspout and away.

What makes a well designed system?

The panels and gutter have no obstructions to the flow of water. There are no components that sit across the flow of water to trap debris. When this happens the trash will accumulate behind the trapped debris and the situation will gradually worsen.

The pitch of the panels and gutter is consistent and even throughout the system. There are no low spots for water to pool. When drainage is complete and even the debris left in the panels will dry out and float away in the next rainfall.

□ **A pool of water left in the panels will cause debris to stay wet, making it less likely to float to the gutter. Again it will slowly accumulate. The pool will enlarge over subsequent rains. The drainage of your underdeck ceiling will gradually worsen.**

We are describing a situation that generally takes a couple of years to develop, but eventually the moisture and leaves will have built a perfect haven for mosquitos and mold to develop. Over a longer time, the weight will increase on the underdeck. This will worsen the development of low spots, and the process will continue. Perhaps it will worsen until part or all of the system falls.

No underdeck drainage system is immune from trash falling on the ceiling. Magnolia is the first to recognize this problem and to incorporate ways to deal with it in its design. Our individually removable panels allow for simple inspections and maintenance. Our panel latches are adjustable to allow for low spots to be removed. These may develop if the deck above begins to sag slightly.

If you are expecting a ceiling under your deck to last as long as your deck, please be sure that it designed so that you can care for it.

