

Gutter Overflow

It's my intention that this idea should be a part of the public domain and should never be patented.

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This document is approximately 304 words long.

When the opening into the downspout under the gutter gets clogged, the gutter overflows. That causes the water to fall along the side of the house, where it might damage the foundation. I never become aware that the opening is clogged until I see the water spilling over the side of the gutter. By then, it's too late to avoid having the water fall beside the house. I had an idea.

I folded the gutter end cap over, making it about an inch shorter than before.



That way, under normal conditions the gutter will still drain into the downspout, as usual. If the downspout becomes clogged, then the water will spill out over the end cap, preventing the gutter from filling, so that it doesn't spill water along the side of the house. When I notice water spilling over the end cap, then I know that it's time to clean the opening to the downspout.

Water that spills over the end cap will fall where it would have fallen anyway, if it had come down the downspout. From there, it flows away in the little drainage ditch.

By the way, don't use that idiotic underground plastic drain pipe. It provides a place for vermin to live until it becomes filled with dirt and roots. After that, it doesn't drain anymore. I use surface drainage, as you can see in the picture. It's low tech, low cost, zero maintenance, effective, and it doesn't require putting more plastic into the planet.

