



BCM Roofing Examines How Skylight Installation Interacts With the Broader Roofing System

August 19, 2026

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP, MI - August 19, 2026 -

Roof openings created by the addition of a skylight require careful integration with surrounding roofing materials, flashing, and the overall roof assembly. Once installed, a skylight becomes part of the roofing system rather than a standalone feature. Its performance depends on how the opening is detailed against water movement, adjacent materials, and the complete roof structure.

Professional roofing work treats such penetrations as elements of a larger system. A skylight installation involves more than placing a unit into an existing roof surface. The process must account for the roof opening itself, the relationship between the skylight frame and nearby roofing materials, and the methods used to manage water around that intersection. Treating the roof as a collection of independent parts overlooks these connections. Proper integration considers the full roof assembly so that the new opening functions with the existing construction rather than against it.

Flashing and waterproofing play central roles at these points of intersection. Roof flashing directs water away from joints, penetrations, and transitions where shingles or other coverings alone cannot form a continuous barrier. Educational material from BCM Roofing identifies skylights among the locations where flashing

protects against water intrusion, alongside chimneys, vents, and slope intersections. Waterproofing techniques complement this detailing by supporting the seal around the curb or frame. Together these measures address water management at the roof opening without relying on any single component in isolation.

Installation considerations also vary with the existing roof configuration and the skylight type selected. BCM Roofing, a roofing contractor serving communities across Southeast Michigan and Mid-Michigan, provides professional skylight installation as an authorized Velux installer. The company offers fixed skylights, venting skylights, and sun tunnels. Each configuration creates a different relationship with the surrounding roof assembly and must be detailed accordingly. Fixed units remain closed, while venting models introduce operable elements that interact with attic airflow. Sun tunnels present a more compact penetration. In every case the work includes flashing and sealing as part of the installation process.

“Skylight installation has to be approached as work within the roofing system,” said Brian Musgrove, Founder of BCM Roofing. “The unit itself is only one part of the equation. The opening, the surrounding materials, and the way water is directed around that penetration all determine how the completed assembly performs.”

Musgrove noted that field experience reinforces the need to evaluate the existing roof before creating any new opening. “Roofing professionals look at how the skylight will sit relative to the deck, the underlayment, and the finished surface. Flashing and waterproofing techniques are applied specifically at those transitions so the penetration does not become a weak point in the larger system.”

This approach illustrates a broader principle of exterior building construction. A roof functions through the interaction of its components rather than as a simple covering. Penetrations of any kind—whether for ventilation, access, or daylight—alter the continuity of the surface and introduce locations where water can migrate if detailing is incomplete. Skylight installation provides a clear example of that interdependence. When the opening is integrated with care for materials, flashing, and water pathways, the skylight operates as a coordinated element of the roof assembly.

BCM Roofing was founded in 2005 by Brian Musgrove. The company provides residential roofing, commercial roofing, metal roofing, storm damage repair, gutter installation, siding installation, skylight installation, composite decking, and related exterior services throughout Oakland, Macomb, Genesee, and Lapeer counties in Southeast Michigan and Mid-Michigan. Its work reflects a consistent emphasis on craftsmanship and the relationships among exterior components.

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BCM Roofing

BCM Roofing is a Michigan-based exterior contractor providing residential roofing, siding, gutters, insulation, and permanent lighting services, focused on durable workmanship and coordinated exterior home improvements.

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