



ASBESTOS

Potential Hazards

- 1. exposure to asbestos materials
- 2. potential life threatening illness
- 3. flying objects
- 4. repetitive strain injuries

Personal Protective Equipment Required

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Hard hat | CSA Boots | Fall protection |
| Eyewear
guards | Hearing protection | Skin protection
(clothing) |

PROCEDURES

As part of the ongoing commitment to provide a safe work environment, the following procedure has been established to address the existence of asbestos on job sites.

DO:

- 1. Keep activities to a minimum in any areas having damaged material that may contain asbestos.
- 2. Take every precaution to avoid damaging asbestos material.
- 3. Have removal and major repair done by people trained and qualified in handling asbestos. It is highly recommended that sampling and minor repair also be done by asbestos professionals.

DO NOT:

- 1. Do not use compressed air, brushes, or other "dry" means to remove dust from friction materials that may contain asbestos.
- 2. Don't dust, sweep, or vacuum debris that may contain asbestos.
- 3. Don't saw, sand, scrape, or drill holes in asbestos materials.
- 4. Don't use abrasive pads or brushes on power strippers to strip wax from asbestos flooring or its backing. Never use a power stripper on a dry floor.
- 5. Don't sand or try to level asbestos flooring or its backing.
- 6. Don't track material that could contain asbestos through the building. If you cannot avoid walking through the area, have it cleaned with a wet mop. If the material is from a damaged area, or if a large area must be cleaned, call an asbestos professional.
- 7.

GENERAL SAFE WORK PRACTICES:

Demolition of buildings or building components often have asbestos insulation around pipes and boilers, or asbestos in floor tiles and ceiling tiles. PCBs are common in older fluorescent light fixture ballasts. Prior to demolition activity inspect the area for the potential of hazardous materials.

If hazardous materials are encountered or suspected during demolition, advise the Supervisor and stop work. Without delay, the owner and prime consultant are to be notified that work has stopped. The General Supervisor is to formally request direction before proceeding.

If specified materials of new construction contain asbestos, the material is to be substituted with an equal or better material.

POSSIBLE LOCATIONS OF ASBESTOS MATERIALS

- 1. Steam pipes, boilers, and furnace ducts insulated with an asbestos blanket or asbestos paper tape. These materials may release asbestos fibers if damaged, repaired, or removed improperly.
- 2. Resilient floor tiles (vinyl asbestos, asphalt, and rubber), the backing on vinyl sheet flooring, and adhesives used for installing floor tile. Sanding tiles can release fibers. So may scraping or sanding the backing of sheet flooring during removal.
- 3. Cement sheet, millboard and paper used as insulation around furnaces and woodburning stoves. Repairing or removing appliances may release asbestos fibers. So may cutting, tearing, sanding, drilling, or sawing insulation.



4. Door Gaskets in furnaces, wood stoves, and coal stoves. Worn seals can release asbestos fibers during use.
5. Soundproofing or decorative material sprayed on walls and ceilings. Loose, crumbly, or water-damaged material may release fibers. So will sanding, drilling, or scraping the material.
6. Patching and joint compounds for walls and ceilings, and textured paints. Sanding, scraping, or drilling these surfaces may release asbestos.
7. Asbestos cement roofing, shingles and siding. These products are not likely to release asbestos fibers unless sawed, dilled, or cut.
8. Artificial ashes and embers sold for use in gas-fired fireplaces. Also, other older household products such as fireproof gloves, stove-top pads, ironing board covers, and certain hairdryers.
9. Automobile brake pads and linings, clutch facings, and gaskets.
10. Vermiculite Insulation

HANDLING

The handling of hazardous materials is to only be performed by qualified sub-contractors, specifically trained and registered to remove and dispose of hazardous materials.

No one handles asbestos materials and products, PCBs or other hazardous materials.

WorkSafeBC and Environment Ministry are notified of hazardous material before removal.