

Wastes containing asbestos —removal, transport and disposal

Updated July 2009*

EPA 414/09: This guideline sets out the EPA's minimum requirements for the management, safe handling and disposal of asbestos waste and asbestos-containing materials.

Introduction

Asbestos-containing materials (ACM) were used extensively in Australian buildings and structures, plant and equipment, and in ships, trains and motor vehicles during the 1950s to the mid 1980s; and some uses, including certain friction materials and gaskets, were only discontinued on 31 December 2003.

Asbestos dust or fibres are known to be highly hazardous when inhaled, and can be released into the air when products and wastes containing asbestos are incorrectly handled, removed or transported for disposal.

Exposure to asbestos fibres is known to cause mesothelioma, asbestosis and lung cancer. Information on the health aspects of exposure to asbestos products or fibres in domestic situations can be obtained from the Department of Health, tel: 8226 7100 or <www.health.sa.gov.au>.

Forms of Asbestos-containing Materials

Non-friable ACM is the most common form, usually found as cement sheeting (either flat or corrugated), vinyl floor tiles, water or flue pipes, and other asbestos-bonded products produced before 1980. Friable ACM was used in pipe lagging, insulation and asbestos-backed vinyl floor tiles, and presents significant health risks if disturbed.

Examples of ACM are given in Appendix A of the *Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2nd Edition [NOHSC: 2002 (2005)]*. If ACM are discovered within or actively mixed with other wastes, the entire load is deemed as an asbestos waste and must be managed appropriately. For example, where a stockpile of waste soil is contaminated with ACM the entire stockpile is deemed to be asbestos waste and must be managed as per this guideline or conditions of EPA Licence.

General information on asbestos and its removal can be obtained from SafeWork SAs Help Centre (see details on Page 4).

* Last version was June 2009. List of asbestos disposal sites has been updated.

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Definitions

Asbestos is the fibrous form of mineral silicates belonging to the serpentine and amphibole groups of rock-forming minerals, including actinolite, amosite (brown asbestos), anthophyllite, chrysotile (white asbestos), crocidolite (blue asbestos), tremolite, or any mixture containing one or more of the mineral silicates belonging to the serpentine and amphibole groups.

Asbestos-containing material is any, material, object, product or debris that contains asbestos.

Friable asbestos means:

- (a) non-bonded asbestos fabric, or
- (b) asbestos-containing material that:
 - (i) is in the form of powder, or
 - (ii) can be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure when dry.

Non-friable asbestos means asbestos-containing material in which the asbestos fibres are bonded by cement, vinyl, resin or other similar material, eg asbestos cement.

Asbestos Waste means waste asbestos-containing material (ACM) including all removed ACM, as well as disposable items used during asbestos removal work, such as plastic sheeting and disposable coveralls, respirators and cleaning rags.

See also Approved Codes of Practice under the *Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986*.

Commercial removal and transport of ACM and Asbestos Waste

Commercial removal

Contractors removing more than 0.5 m² of friable asbestos require:

- an environmental authorisation (licence) as a 'Producer of Listed Waste' issued by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) under section 36 of the *Environment Protection Act 1993* (EP Act)

and

- a licence issued by SafeWork SA under the *Occupational Health, Safety And Welfare (Asbestos) Regulations 1995*.

Contractors removing 10 m² or more of *non-friable asbestos* require a relevant licence issued by SafeWork SA under the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare (Asbestos) Regulations 1995.

When a licence is not required, the removal must be carried out in accordance with the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations 1995, the Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos and section 25 (General Environmental Duty) of the EP Act. Refer to the further information section for additional references.

Commercial transport

Persons who transport asbestos waste for fee or reward require an environmental authorisation (licence) as a 'Transporter of Listed Waste', issued by the EPA under Section 36 of the EP Act.

Domestic removal and transport of ACM and Asbestos Waste

Friable asbestos

For health and safety reasons, removal of friable ACM should only be undertaken by a licensed asbestos removalist (refer to Yellow Pages).

Non-friable asbestos

Householders can choose to engage the services of an asbestos removalist (refer to Yellow Pages) or remove and transport non-friable ACM from their property according to the following requirements:

- close all windows and doors to prevent the possible entry of asbestos dust during any external work
- wet the asbestos cement with water before removal (if safe to do so) and keep it wet until packaged for transport
- remove asbestos cement with minimal breakage
- do not drop asbestos sheets on the ground—lower them carefully
- wear disposable coveralls and either an approved respirator or a particle mask suitable for asbestos work
- dispose coveralls and particle masks with the asbestos cement
- do not use power tools to cut or remove asbestos, except when removing screws or fastenings
- wrap the asbestos in thick plastic (>200 micron thick) using duct tape to form sealed packages of a manageable size, or place the asbestos in plastic-lined bins supplied by an EPA licensed waste transporter. The plastic liners should then be taped down over the contents of the bin.
- all packages should be labelled to identify the contents
- transport the asbestos to a landfill or waste transfer station licensed by the EPA to receive asbestos (a list of EPA licensed landfills and waste transfer stations is attached).

Additional information is available within the SafeWork SA publication: *Asbestos and the Home Renovator—A basic guide on what you need to know about asbestos* (2006) which can be found at <www.safework.sa.gov.au/uploaded_files/asbestos_homerenovator.pdf>

Disclaimer

This publication is a guide only and does not necessarily provide adequate information in relation to every situation. This publication seeks to explain your possible obligations in a helpful and accessible way. In doing so, however, some detail may not be captured. It is important, therefore, that you seek information from the EPA and other relevant authorities regarding your obligations and, where appropriate, that you seek your own legal advice.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations, 1995—Division 4.2 Asbestos
http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/sa/consol_reg/ohsawr1995445/s4.2.1.html

National Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos (2005)

<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/NR/rdonlyres/1A198A7C-D0A7-40AD-964E-31673C695E92/0/AsbestosCode.pdf>

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National Code of Practice for the Management and Control of Asbestos in Workplaces(2005)
<http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/NR/rdonlyres/1A198A7C-D0A7-40AD-964E-31673C695E92/0/AsbestosCode.pdf>

Asbestos and the Home Mechanic—A basic guide to what you need to know about asbestos
 (Safework SA) http://www.safework.sa.gov.au/uploaded_files/asbestos_homemechanic.pdf

Asbestos and the Home Renovator—A basic guide on what you need to know about asbestos
 (Safework SA) www.safework.sa.gov.au/uploaded_files/asbestos_homerenovator.pdf

Legislation

Legislation may be viewed on the internet at: <www.legislation.sa.gov.au>

Copies of legislation are available for purchase from:

Service SA Government Legislation Outlet 101 Grenfell Street Adelaide SA 5000	Telephone: Facsimile: Internet:	13 23 24 (08) 8204 1909 < shop.service.sa.gov.au >
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For general information please contact:

Environment Protection Authority GPO Box 2607 Adelaide SA 5001	Telephone: Facsimile: Freecall (country): Internet: Email:	(08) 8204 2004 (08) 8124 4674 1800 623 445 < www.epa.sa.gov.au > < epainfo@epa.sa.gov.au >
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Department of the Premier and Cabinet:

HELP CENTRE SafeWork SA GPO Box 465 Adelaide SA 5001	Telephone: Internet: Email:	1300 365 255 < www.safework.sa.gov.au > < help@safework.sa.gov.au >
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Department of Health:

PO Box 6 Rundle Mall Adelaide SA 5000	Telephone: Internet:	(08) 8226 7100 < www.health.sa.gov.au >
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ASBESTOS DISPOSAL SITES (AMENDED)

It is the obligation of the individual intending to dispose of asbestos to contact the appropriate depot to determine opening times and confirm any conditions regarding the acceptance prior to delivery of ACM.

METROPOLITAN WASTE DEPOTS

Licence number	Site location	Asbestos type	Operator	Council region	Depot contact number
14773	28 Henry Street, Woodside	Non- friable	Onkaparinga Waste and Recycling Management Pty Ltd	Adelaide Hills Council	(08) 8389 7561
353	Heathfield Transfer Station, Alltoment 2, Scott Creek Road, Heathfield 5153	Non friable-transfer only, not disposal	Adelaide Hills Council	Adelaide Hills Council	(08) 8408 0400
13733	Tatachilla Road, McLaren Vale 5171	Friable	Lucas Waste Management t/a Southern Waste Depot	City of Onkaparinga Council	(08) 8386 2212
16264	Wheaton Road, McLaren Vale 5171	Non-friable	Southern Region Waste Resource Authority	City of Onkaparinga Council	(08) 8326 7044
228	Allotments 27-29 Virginia Road, Newton 5074	Non-friable, transfer station only, not disposal	Campbelltown City Council	Campbelltown City Council	(08) 8365 9821
234	Andrews Road, Penfield 5121	Non-friable, transfer only, not disposal	City of Playford	City of Playford	(08) 8256 0333
119	1-27 Hines Road, Wingfield 5013	Non-friable-transfer only, not disposal	Acquista Investments Pty Ltd t/a Integrated Waste Services (IWS)	Port Adelaide Enfield Council	(08) 8243 2644

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Licence number	Site location	Asbestos type	Operator	Council region	Depot contact number
317	Allotment 4, Rubbish Dump Road, Kingston SE	Non-friable	Kingston District Council	Kingston District Council	(08) 8767 2033
246	Racecourse Road, Naracoorte	Non-friable	Naracoorte Lucindale Council	Naracoorte Lucindale Council	(08) 8762 2133
243	Iron Knob Road, Whyalla	Non-friable	Corporation of the City of Whyalla	Corporation of the City of Whyalla	(08) 8640 3420
237	Hassell Road, Port Lincoln	Non-friable	Corporation of the City of Port Lincoln	Corporation of the City of Whyalla	(08) 8621 2300
238	Three Chains Road, Port Pirie	Non-friable	Port Pirie Regional Council	Port Pirie Regional Council	(08) 8633 9777
236	Government Road, Port Augusta	Non-friable and friable	Corporation of the City of Port Augusta	Corporation of the City of Port Augusta	(08) 8641 9100
3070	Ten Chain Road, Ceduna	Non-friable	District Council of Ceduna	District Council of Ceduna	(08) 8625 3407
2108	Flinders Highway, Streaky Bay	Non-friable	District Council of Streaky Bay	District Council of Streaky Bay	(08) 8626 1846
2015	95 Railway Terrace, Taillem Bend 5260	Non-friable	The Coorong District Council: only accept asbestos from their council area	The Coorong District Council	(08) 8572 3611
2194	18 Main Street, Minlaton 5575	Non-friable	District Council of Yorke Peninsula	DC Yorke Peninsula	(08) 8832 0000
327	Canunda Causeway Canunda 5280	Non-friable	Wattle Range Council	Wattle Range Council	(08) 8733 0900
448	Louden Hill Road, O B Flat, 5291	Non-friable	Gambier Earth Movers	District Council of Grant	(08) 8726 8089
1757	Port MacDonnell Site Dump Road, O B Flat, 5291	Non-friable	District Council of Grant	District Council of Grant	(08) 8721 0444
2422	Section 363 Hundred of Yongala	Non-friable	District Council of Peterborough	DC Peterborough	(08) 8651 3566
336	Section 686 Hundred of Kadina	Non-friable	District Council of Copper Coast	DC Copper Coast	(08) 88211600

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Licence number	Site location	Asbestos type	Operator	Council region	Depot contact number
1702	Section 16 Haydon Road, Reeves Plains 5502	Non-friable	District Council of Kapunda and Light	DC Kapunda and Light	(08) 8525 3200
346	Victor Harbour-Goolwa Road, Goolwa 5214	Non-friable	Alexandrina Council	Alexandrina Council	(08) 8555 7000
2595	North Coast Road, Kingscote 5223	Non-friable	Kangaroo Island Council	KI council	(08) 8553 4500
1815	Section 793, Maggea Road, Waikerie 5330	Non-friable	District Council of Loxton Waikerie	DC Loxton Waikerie	(08) 8584 8000
322	Mackey Road, Loxton 5333	Non-friable	District Council of Loxton Waikerie	DC Loxton Waikerie	(08) 8584 8000
1931	Section 130 Hundred of Angas,	Non-friable	Mid Murray Council: only accept asbestos from their council area	Mid Murray Council	(08) 8589 0100
299	Cemetery Road, Clare 5453	Non-friable	Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council: only accept asbestos from their council area	Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council	(08) 8842 6400
694	Allotment 2, Government Road, Rhynie 5412	Non-friable	Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council: only accept asbestos from their council area	Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council	(08) 8842 6400
248	Section 1456, Government Road, Out of Hundreds Renmark	Non-friable	Renmark Paringa Council: not currently accepting asbestos as they are working toward closure	Renmark Paringa Council	(08) 8580 3000
16272	Road Reserve Adjacent Allotment 102 & Allotment 102 Alawoona Road, Lameroo 5302	Non-friable	Southern Mallee District Council	Southern Mallee District Council	(08) 8577 8002
11275	Port Wakefield Road, Lower Light 5501	Non-friable	Acquista Investments Pty Ltd t/a Integrated Waste Services (IWS)	District Council of Mallala	(08) 8243 2644
14463	Inkerman Road, Inkerman 5550	Non-friable	Waste Management Pacific	Wakefield Regional Council	(08) 8867 1355

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Licence number	Site location	Asbestos type	Operator	Council region	Depot contact number
2504	Allotment 101, Main Road, Yahl 5291	Non-friable	City of Mount Gambier	City of Mount Gambier	(08) 8721 2555