

Asbestos Information for Those Who Work with AC Water Pipe

If you work with asbestos-containing (AC) water pipe you need to be aware of several rules that may affect your ability to maintain, remove, and dispose of AC pipe. DEQ and Lane Regional Air Protection Agency ([LRAPA](#)) have specific rules regarding the handling and disposal of asbestos-containing materials (ACM). Depending on the type, amount, and condition of the ACM, you may be subject to some or all of these rules.

Asbestos fibers in the air pose a significant health threat to employees, the public, and the environment. DEQ/LRAPA regulates the removal and disposal of ACM to prevent asbestos fiber release and exposure.

In general, there are two types of ACMs:

- **Friable** ACM will easily release fibers when crushed. When AC pipe is mishandled or damaged, all rules pertaining to friable ACM apply. Only DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractors and certified asbestos workers can remove and dispose of friable ACM. DEQ has specific training courses available that meet these certification needs. A list of DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractors and training information can be found online <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos/>
- **Non-friable** ACM have a binder that holds the asbestos fibers within a solid matrix and will not allow asbestos fibers to release easily, unless mishandled, damaged, or in badly worn or weathered condition. AC water pipe in good condition and removed properly is considered a non-friable material.

You do not need to be a DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractor or a certified asbestos worker to perform non-friable asbestos abatement. **However, non-friable materials must remain in non-friable condition (predominantly whole pieces) during the removal and disposal process.** If you remove non-friable AC water pipe, follow the DEQ guidance document. In addition, a non-friable project notification and fee are required to be submitted to DEQ five (5) days prior to the start

date of the project. The waiting period can be waived by DEQ on a case by case basis under certain conditions. A copy of the guidance document and project notification can be obtained by contacting a regional office listed below.

Asbestos rules prohibit abandoning AC water pipe in the ground once exposed. There are special cases that allow AC water pipe to be left in the ground (i.e. AC pipe under an existing roadway or AC pipe under a building). Call DEQ to determine if your project qualifies. If AC water pipe is removed, the asbestos-containing waste material (ACWM) must be adequately wet. DEQ recommends the ACWM be packaged in leak-tight containers

The ACWM must be disposed of at a landfill authorized to handle asbestos waste and should be accompanied by a waste shipment report ([ASN-4](#)) at the time of disposal. Contact the landfill before delivering the ACWM. Landfills can be more stringent than DEQ and may only accept ACWM by appointment. A copy of the waste shipment report and the list of authorized landfills can be obtained by contacting a regional office listed below.

Maintenance and comparable activities limited to less than three (3) linear or three (3) square feet of ACM, provided the removal is part of a needed repair operation, may be exempt from certain rules. Contact a regional office for more information.

If you disturb or mishandle ACM and cause employees, the public or the environment to be potentially exposed to asbestos fibers, you can be liable for clean-up costs and enforcement action for rule violations. An enforcement action may include a civil penalty assessment.

Copies of the guidance document, abatement contractor and landfill lists, notifications and waste shipment form can be found on the DEQ web page: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos/>



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

**Air Quality
Asbestos**
811 SW 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: (503) 229-5388
(800) 452-4011
Fax: (503) 229-5675
Contact: Cory-Ann Wind
www.oregon.gov/DEQ/

Contact information

Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook and Washington Counties, call the Gresham office at 503-667-8414 ext. 55022.

Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties, call the Salem office at 503-378-5086 or 800-349-7677.

Lane County, call the Lane Regional Air Protection Agency at 541-736-1056 ext. 222.

Jackson, Josephine and Eastern Douglas Counties, call the Medford office at 541-776-6107 or 877-823-3216.

Coos, Curry and Western Douglas Counties, call the Coos Bay office at 541-269-2721 ext. 222.

Crook, Deschutes, Harney, Hood River, Jefferson, Klamath, Lake, Sherman, and Wasco Counties, call the Bend office at 541-633-2019.

Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, and Wheeler Counties, call the Pendleton office at 541-278-4626 or 800-304-3513.

Alternative Formats

DEQ is committed to accommodating people with disabilities. Please notify DEQ of any special physical or language accommodations or if you need information in large print, Braille or another format.

To make these arrangements, contact DEQ Communications and Outreach in Portland at 503-229-5696 or call toll-free in Oregon at 800-452-4011; fax to 503-229-6762; or email deqinfo@deq.state.or.us.

People with hearing impairments may call 711.