

Asbestos Information for Construction Contractors

If you perform remodeling, renovation, repair or demolition activities you need to be aware of several rules that may affect your ability to perform these activities. Depending on the type, amount, and condition of the asbestos-containing materials (ACM), you may be subject to some or all of the asbestos rules.

DEQ and Lane Regional Air Protection Agency ([LRAPA](#)) have specific rules regarding the handling and disposal of ACM. DEQ/LRAPA regulates the removal and disposal of ACM from any public or private building to prevent asbestos fiber release and exposure.

Asbestos fibers in the air pose a significant health threat to employees, the public, and the environment. If you encounter ACM in the process of performing construction activities, you must follow all DEQ/LRAPA asbestos program rules.

DEQ requires that an asbestos survey be performed by an accredited inspector to determine the presence of ACM in or on all public or private commercial buildings, or in or on any residential structure that has more than four dwelling units before any renovation or demolition activities. Asbestos hazard consultants and many of the licensed asbestos abatement contractors can provide this service.

There is a Fact Sheet specific to the building survey requirement available that is outlined in a question/answer format. A list of consultants, abatement contractors and the building survey Fact Sheet can be obtained online:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos>

In general, there are two types of ACMs:

- **Friable** ACM will easily release fibers when crushed. 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>

Examples of friable ACM include, but are not limited to: sheet vinyl flooring, insulation on

pipng, duct and boilers, fireproofing, ceiling texture and panel products, and soundproofing.

- **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. 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.** Examples of non-friable ACM include, but are not limited to: vinyl floor tile, AC water pipe, and cement (transite) siding or roofing. If you remove non-friable ACM, follow the DEQ guidance documents. 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.

Non-friable asbestos-containing waste material (ACWM) must be kept adequately wet and the DEQ recommends it be packaged in leak tight containers. The material 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 guidance documents, project notification, list of authorized landfills and waste shipment report 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 tenants, customers, employees, the public or the environment to be potentially exposed to asbestos fibers, you can be liable for clean-up costs and an enforcement action for rule violations. An enforcement action may include a



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/

civil penalty assessment.

Copies of the guidance document, building survey Factsheet, consultant, laboratory, abatement contractor and landfill lists, project notification and waste shipment report can be found on the DEQ web page:

<http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos>

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.

Accessibility information

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.