



The Arizona Municipal Risk Retention Pool

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What Small Communities Need To Know About Asbestos Demolition and Renovation Practices

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to municipal building departments regarding the state asbestos National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPs) program. The EPA's NESHAPs are part of the Clean Air Act and include air quality regulations for a large number of hazardous airborne pollutants, many of which are of chemical origin. The Asbestos-NESHAP regulation addresses the reduction of potential exposure from asbestos for facilities undergoing renovation or demolition. The regulation provides a method for identifying asbestos-containing materials and defines a process to: categorize, abate, package, label, transport and dispose of these materials.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a mineral fiber. It can be positively identified only with a special type of microscope. There are several types of asbestos fibers. Asbestos was added to a variety of products to strengthen them or to provide heat insulation and fire resistance.

Why is asbestos regulated?

Asbestos fibers can cause serious health problems. If asbestos fibers are inhaled, these tiny microscopic fibers can cause normal functions of the lungs to be disturbed. Exposure increases the risk of developing lung cancer, mesothelioma, or asbestosis, which is a scarring of the lungs that leads to breathing problems. It could take anywhere from 15 to 30 years after the first exposure for symptoms to occur. Medical investigations have shown that inhalation is the principal route of entry that leads to asbestos-related diseases.

What is regulated by this program?

All demolition activities regardless of the presence or non-presence of asbestos.

All renovation activities that will disturb friable asbestos-containing material greater than or equal to 160 square feet, 260 linear feet, or 35 cubic feet. This is determined by an Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) certified building inspector prior to disturbance.

Facilities regulated by this program?

- Public, commercial, industrial buildings and apartment complexes of greater than four units.
- Two or more residential homes (this also includes two or more livable structures on a single property).

General guidelines for renovation & demolition projects.

1. Determine if the building has been inspected by an AHERA-certified building inspector during the past year. ***If it has been***, obtain a copy of the asbestos report to determine if asbestos is present. ***If it has not been inspected***, have the building inspected by a currently AHERA-certified building inspector. Obtain a copy of the asbestos report to determine if asbestos is present. **It is required that the asbestos inspection report be available on site throughout the entire demolition/renovation project.**

2. Determine the amount of friable asbestos containing material. If the amount is **160 square feet, 260 linear feet, 35 cubic feet or more**, it is regulated asbestos and must be removed by a certified contractor prior to any disturbance activity.
3. Consider hiring a third party consultant who has asbestos contractor/supervisor training to oversee the project. If you do hire a consultant pay attention to the recommendations and guidance.

FOR RENOVATION PROJECTS:

4. If the renovation requires the removal of regulated asbestos as defined above, prepare and submit the **10-Day NESHAP notification form** with the notification fee. The notification must be postmarked or hand-delivered to Maricopa County Planning & Development One Stop Shop, 501 N. 44th St. 2nd Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85008 at least ten (10) working days prior to the commencement of the renovation project.

FOR DEMOLITION PROJECTS:

5. Prepare and submit the **10-Day NESHAP notification form** with the notification fee. The notification must be postmarked or hand-delivered to Maricopa County Planning & Development One Stop Shop, 501 N. 44th St. 2nd Floor, Phoenix, AZ 85008 at least ten (10) working days prior to the commencement of the renovation project.
6. Notification forms can be downloaded from www.maricopa.gov/aq (select the "Asbestos/NESHAP" quick link on the left).
7. Make sure to obtain all required permits for your project (i.e. Dust Control Permit from Maricopa County Air Quality Department).

DEFINITIONS

AHERA - Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act

Asbestos - The asbestiform varieties of serpentinite (chrysolite), riebeckite (crocidolite), cummingtonite-grunerite, anthophyllite and actinolite-tremolite.

Category I (CAT I) non-friable asbestos-containing material (ACM) - Asbestos-containing packings, gaskets, resilient floor covering and asphalt roofing products containing more than 1% asbestos as determined using the method specified in appendix E, subpart E, 40 CFR Part 763, section 1, Polarized Light Microscopy.

Category II (CAT II) non-friable (ACM) - Any material, excluding Category I non-friable ACM, containing more than 1% asbestos as determined using the method specified in appendix E, subpart E, 40 CFR Part 763, section 1, Polarized Light Microscopy that, when dry, cannot be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

Demolition - The wrecking or taking out of any load-supporting structural member of a facility together with any related handling operations or the intentional burning of any facility.

Friable - Any material that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

NESHAP - National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants pursuant to 40 CFR Part 61, Subpart M (1990).

DISCLAIMER

The information provided in this bulletin is merely a guideline and does not cover all of the asbestos NESHAP requirements. For further details, contact Maricopa County's Asbestos NESHAP Coordinator at (602) 506-6708. asbestos@mail.maricopa.gov