

Where is asbestos found?

Asbestos can be found in existing structures of any type and age, and new construction as well. Because it's made of very strong fibrous minerals that are heat-resistant and very durable, asbestos is used in a wide range of construction materials such as **siding, ceiling and floor tiles, pipe insulation, plaster** and more.

Learn more

epa.gov/asbestos/learn-about-asbestos



Resources

to learn more about asbestos

Paperwork requirements vary for commercial haulers with drop-box loads and contractors in the building and construction trades. Learn more at oregonmetro.gov/asbestosrules

Learn more about asbestos and how to protect yourself, your family and neighbors.

epa.gov/asbestos

Find a list of licensed asbestos abatement contractors
deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos
or call 503-229-5982

Find a list of laboratories that perform tests to determine if asbestos is present in materials
deq.state.or.us/aq/asbestos/house.htm
or call 503-229-5982

Questions?

Ask Metro about new requirements, materials accepted and fees at Metro transfer stations. Call before you haul at 503-234-3000 or email mri@oregonmetro.gov



STARTING A REMODELING OR
HOME IMPROVEMENT PROJECT?

Take steps to avoid asbestos exposure



Metro's transfer stations screen all loads of remodeling, construction and demolition waste for materials that may contain asbestos.



To protect the health and safety of customers and employees, Metro's transfer stations require paperwork for all loads of remodeling, construction and demolition waste with materials that may contain asbestos. Any load without proper paperwork will be turned away.

What is the risk from asbestos?

Asbestos is a very durable mineral fiber that is extremely hazardous. Exposure to it can happen when it's disturbed or damaged and small, visible fibers are released into the air. Breathing in asbestos fibers increases your risk of lung disease and cancer. Direct contact with any amount should be avoided.

Does it contain asbestos?

There are some high-risk materials suspected of containing asbestos. If you bring any of the following items to a Metro transfer station, you will need to have analytical test results that certify they contain one-percent (1%) or less asbestos by weight:

- Flooring: vinyl tiles, vinyl sheet, cove base molding, mastic
- Walls: plaster, decorative plaster
- Siding: cement siding shingles (e.g., "Transite")
- Ceilings: acoustical tiles, "popcorn" and spray-on texture
- Insulation: spray-applied, blown-in, vermiculite, pipe, HVAC and lagging
- Electrical: wire insulation, panel partitions
- Other: fire doors, fire brick, fire proofing

Starting April 1, 2017, analytical test results for asbestos will also be required for the following materials brought to a Metro transfer station:

- Drywall: includes separate analytical tests for texture, compound mud and gypsum
- Interior textures: spray-on, trowel-applied and skim/brown coats
- Insulation: block, boiler and spray-applied sink undercoating
- Stucco
- Gaskets: furnace, boiler and wood stove
- Roofing materials: tar paper, felt, Nicolite paper, silver/white roofing paint
- Various compounds: window glazing, cements, adhesives, caulks, patching and vapor barrier products

Take these steps to protect your health and safety

Before you start a remodeling, demolition or construction project:

1. Use an accredited asbestos inspector to survey your project for materials that may contain asbestos.
2. Have any suspect materials tested by an analytical laboratory.
3. Bring survey or test results with your load to a Metro transfer station to show it contains no asbestos. If you don't have the proper paperwork, your load will be turned away.

Get tips and advice to protect your family from asbestos, including:

1. How to identify materials that may contain asbestos
2. What to do if you have asbestos in your home
3. Do's and Don'ts for homeowners
4. What asbestos professionals can do for you and more

epa.gov/asbestos/protect-your-family

What are disposal options for waste containing asbestos?

Special authorization is given to landfills that handle asbestos waste. In the Portland area, Hillsboro Landfill is permitted to accept asbestos waste. For hours of operation, cost and other details, call 503-640-9427.

What about disposal options for small amounts of asbestos?

Metro's hazardous waste facilities take small amounts (two 25-pound bags) of asbestos-containing material from non-commercial, residential customers only. Material must be placed in double, six-millimeter plastic bags.