

Where is asbestos found?

Asbestos can be found in existing structures of any type and age, including new construction. 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

Get tips and advice to protect your family from asbestos

epa.gov/asbestos/protect-your-family



Asbestos resources

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

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

Find a list of licensed asbestos abatement contractors, as well as a list of laboratories that perform tests to determine if asbestos is present in materials. Learn more at oregon.gov/deq/Hazards-and-Cleanup/Pages/Asbestos-Information.aspx 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 AskMetro@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 from structures and RVs. Asbestos survey reports or lab test results are required for construction and demolition waste generated from residential structures constructed before 2004 and **all commercial structures regardless of age**. Commercial structures include residential buildings containing four or more units. 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.



Paper copies of the test results for each load must be provided at the transfer station. Electronic documentation is not sufficient.

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:

- **Interior walls and ceilings:** acoustical tiles, glue dots, plaster, and textured surfaces
- **Exterior walls:** cement siding, stucco
- **Flooring:** vinyl tiles, sheet vinyl, some mastic adhesives
- **Insulation/fireproofing:** block, boiler, spray-applied, vermiculite, monokote, sink undercoating, thermal system insulation (fiberglass, cellulose, and mineral wool are exempt)
- **Gaskets:** furnace, mechanical, boiler, wood stove (automotive gaskets are exempt)
- **Heating:** white paper or seam tape on ducts, air-duct cement and insulation
- **Roofing materials:** tar paper, felt, silver/white roofing paint, Nicolite paper
- **Fire doors, fire/kiln brick and fireproofing**
- **Various compounds:** window glazing, adhesives, caulks, patching, mastics, vapor barrier products (plastic or synthetic materials such as Tyvek are exempt)
- **Electrical:** switch gear, circuit boxes and fuse panels; wiring with cloth insulation (Romex wiring is exempt)

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-lined, 6 mil asbestos bags.

What are disposal options for waste containing asbestos?

There are two landfills close to the Portland area that are permitted to accept asbestos waste:

Hillsboro Landfill, 503-640-9427

Wasco County Landfill (The Dalles), 541-296-4082

Material must be properly prepared before it arrives at the landfill. Call ahead for hours, costs and other information.

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. Fill out a Metro Construction and Demolition Waste Acceptance Form, available online at oregonmetro.gov/asbestos.
4. Bring survey or test results and your Metro waste acceptance form with your load to show it contains no asbestos. If you don't have the proper paperwork, your load will be turned away.