

Asbestos Applicability Chart

Asbestos Removal and Demolition Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 61 Subpart M National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)

You need to determine if asbestos is present by conducting a survey of construction records, original shop drawings, remodeling records, work change orders, etc., and a thorough investigation of all building materials. You need to sample suspected materials, record the location and degree of friability of all confirmed or suspected asbestos containing materials (ACM). Friable material can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

Current regulations (1) restrict the use of most asbestos products in new buildings, (2) specify work practices for removal of ACM from buildings, and (3) require the identification of asbestos in schools. There are no exposure standards for nonindustrial settings, and no regulations requiring corrective actions in buildings with ACM.

Both EPA and Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) have published regulations to reduce asbestos exposure. EPA regulations focus on: (1) application and removal of ACM in new or remodeled buildings, and (2) identification of friable asbestos in schools. EPA also regulates the industrial emission of asbestos fibers and the disposal of asbestos waste. OSHA addresses worker protection in the workplace.

Of particular interest to owners of buildings with asbestos containing material (ACM) are the following regulations:

- When a building is demolished or more than 260 linear ft. of asbestos pipe insulation or 160 sq. ft. of asbestos surfacing material are removed during renovation advance notice* of at least 10 working days must be filed with the EPA regional office and/or the state, giving:
 - o name and address of the building owner or manager;
 - o description and location of the building;
 - o scheduled starting and completion dates of ACM removal;
 - o description of the planned removal methods; and
 - o name, address, and location of disposal site.
- ACM can be removed only with wet removal techniques. Dry removal is allowed only under special conditions and only with written EPA approval.
- No visible emissions of dust are allowed during removal, transportation, and disposal of ACM.
 (The wet removal techniques described in Section 5.1 are designed to satisfy this requirement.)
- * You are required to update the notice if the amount of asbestos being removed is changed by 20 percent (20%) or if the date of removal work is to change.

General Information about Asbestos in Buildings Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 61 Subpart M National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)

When building maintenance, repair, renovation or other activities disturb asbestos containing material (ACM), or if it is damaged, asbestos fibers are released creating a potential hazard to building occupants. Although not required to do so by federal law, the prudent building owner will take steps to limit building occupants' exposure to airborne asbestos.

ACM in buildings is found in three forms: (1) sprayed or troweled on ceilings and walls (surfacing material); (2) in insulation around hot or cold pipes, ducts, boilers, and tanks (pipe and boiler insulation); and (3) in a variety of other products such as ceiling and floor tiles and wall boards (miscellaneous materials). In general, ACM in the first two categories is of greatest concern, especially if it is friable. (Friable material can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.)

Asbestos may be found in cement products, acoustical plaster, fireproofing textiles, wallboard, ceiling tiles, vinyl floor tiles, thermal insulation, and other materials.

To determine if ACM is present in a building, an asbestos survey is conducted by examining construction records and conducting a thorough inspection of building materials. If asbestos is not present, no further action is required. If asbestos is found, a control program should be initiated. Workers and other building occupants will be concerned. The building owner must be prepared to explain the purpose of the asbestos survey to the building occupants and the public, the survey results, and plans for controlling ACM if it is present.