

Asbestos

List:

Following is a list of some materials made from asbestos that would likely be found in residential and commercial structures.

- ◆ acoustic ceilings;
- ◆ furnace duct and furnace insulation;
- ◆ drywall taping and joint compound;
- ◆ textured paints and plaster;
- ◆ vinyl flooring (linoleum or vinyl tiles);
- ◆ pipe lagging and block insulation;
- ◆ paper tape on HVAC systems;
- ◆ asbestos-cement wallboard;
- ◆ asphalt roofing material and roofing felt;
- ◆ silver roof emulsion;
- ◆ spray applied fire-proofing; and
- ◆ fire door insulation.

Health concern:

Asbestos is a health concern when it is exposed, disturbed, and friable.

Friable materials include:

- ◆ sprayed on acoustic ceilings,
- ◆ paper insulation on furnace ducting, and
- ◆ pipe insulation that is of the soft, crumbly type.

Non-friable materials include:

- ◆ floor tile, and
- ◆ hard cement-like pipes and panels.

Disposal:

Disposal of asbestos-containing material is primarily the concern of the licensed contractor who should be aware of the licensing, remediation, encapsulation, transportation, and disposal requirements.

Asbestos defined:

The California Environmental Protection Agency defines asbestos waste (which means it is hazardous) as having more than 1% asbestos and being friable.

- ◆ If the waste does not meet both these criteria, it can be disposed of as normal waste in a Class III landfill.
- ◆ If it is friable and contains more than 1% asbestos, it must be disposed of in a landfill site approved for hazardous waste, or the friable asbestos must be contained or encapsulated when removed.
- ◆ Several Class III landfills are permitted to accept encapsulated asbestos. For information regarding locations to dispose of asbestos waste contact:

Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Building F
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 540-3739

- ◆ For buildings which may contain asbestos, it is recommended that contractors conduct air monitoring to assure safety of workers on site.

Contractor:

Any contractor removing more than 100 square feet of asbestos must be registered with Cal/OSHA and licensed by the Contractors State License Board. For information regarding registration of a contractor or a list of licensed contractors, refer to these agencies:

Cal/OSHA
455 Golden Gate Avenue
5th floor, Room 5227
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 703-5501

California Contractors State
License Board
P.O. Box 2600
Sacramento, CA 95826
(916) 366-5153
(800) 321-2752