



Asbestos Disposal

FACT SHEET Safe & Legal Disposal

What is Asbestos?

Asbestos is a natural material made up of tiny fibres which can lodge in the lungs and lead to cancer or scarring of the lungs. Exposure to asbestos usually occurs by breathing in the air of buildings containing asbestos that are being torn down or renovated.

To minimise the chance of anyone being exposed to asbestos, it is very important to prevent the release of fibres into the air. If you are not sure that a material contains asbestos, play it safe and assume that it does.

As a general rule, if your house was built: Prior to mid 1980's it is **highly likely** that asbestos materials were used in the construction of your house; or

Between the mid 1980's and 1990's it is **likely** that asbestos materials were used in the construction of your house.

Who can remove Asbestos?

Friable (loosely bound) asbestos requires removal by a qualified licensed professional. Asbestos sheeting or bonded (tightly bound) can be removed by anyone as long as the quantity does not exceed 10m². Before removing any asbestos check for safety and legal requirements at: www.health.qld.gov.au/asbestos or www.deir.qld.gov.au/workplace/subjects/asbestos

Preparing your asbestos for disposal

When disposing of asbestos, there are a number of guidelines that must be met:

- To ensure fibres are contained, the asbestos waste must be sprayed with a sealant or wet with water prior to wrapping and labelling;
- All commercial loads of asbestos are to comply with the Australian Code for Transport of Dangerous Goods (ADG Code) and the Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Regulation.

Website: www.isaac.qld.gov.au

- A Waste Tracking Certificate must be filled out for each load of asbestos.

Wrapping your asbestos

Limit the creation and disturbance of the hazardous fibres, it is critical not to break asbestos into small pieces.

Asbestos sheets must be wrapped in plastic sheeting at least 0.2mm in thickness. Double wrap the asbestos if the plastic is less than 0.2mm.

Wrapped bundles must be no larger than the maximum size of 2400mm long and 900mm wide.

The asbestos bundle must be labelled with an appropriate warning, such as

'Caution Asbestos'

Disposal of the asbestos

Contact your local landfill to book in a disposal time. You must give at least 48 hours notice that you will be disposing of asbestos. Asbestos loads will only be accepted at IRC Landfills by a licensed Regulated Waste Transporter with an accompanying Waste Tracking Certificate.

Upon arrival at the Landfill, your load will be inspected and disposal fees will be paid. You will be directed to a disposal area for immediate burial. 2011/12 Asbestos disposal fees are \$166.95(GST inclusive) per cubic metre.

This information contained in this publication is distributed by Isaac Regional Council as general information in summary form only. Specialist asbestos advice should be sought for your specific situation.

In Queensland, there are laws to protect people's health from asbestos.

Make sure you follow the laws or legal action can be taken against you by other people, such as a neighbour.

Phone: 1300 ISAACS (1300 472 227)