

Asbestos Operations and Maintenance Protocol



2016

Purpose and Scope

This protocol has been developed to provide guidance and assistance to University custodial, telecommunications, and maintenance staff in University buildings. This information is intended to identify prohibited actions that should not be taken during maintenance, telecommunications, and renovation activities in order to prevent asbestos from becoming an airborne hazard.

Definitions

ACM - Asbestos containing material. Any material containing more than 1% asbestos

Competent Person - One who is capable of identifying existing asbestos hazards in the workplace and selecting the appropriate control strategy for asbestos exposure and who has the authority to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

Negative Exposure Assessment - A demonstration by means of analytical sampling and assessment that employee exposure during an operation is expected to be consistently below OSHA permissible exposure limits.

NESHAP - National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants. NESHAP-size projects are at least 260 linear feet of friable asbestos on pipes or 160 square feet of friable asbestos on other surfaces, or at least 35 cubic feet of friable asbestos on components not previously measured.

OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

PACM - Presumed asbestos containing material. Utah State regulations require the asbestos content of materials which will be disturbed to be determined prior to work taking place, regardless of the date of construction.

Regulated area - A demarcated area where the airborne concentrations of asbestos exceed, or there is a reasonable possibility they may exceed, the permissible exposure limits.

Operations

Prohibited Activities

Custodial, telecommunications, and maintenance staff must ensure that their activities do not damage or further disturb asbestos containing materials. Custodial, telecommunication, maintenance staff, and building occupants are instructed:

- not to drill holes into asbestos containing material,
- not to hang pictures or plants on structures covered with asbestos containing materials,
- not to sand asbestos containing floor tiles, hard board panels or other non-friable materials,
- not to damage asbestos containing materials while moving furniture or other objects,
- not to install curtains, drapes, or dividers in such a way that they damage asbestos containing materials,
- not to dust floors, ceilings, moldings or other surfaces in an asbestos containing environment with a dry brush or sweep with a broom,
- not to use an ordinary vacuum to clean up asbestos containing debris,
- not to use compressed air to remove asbestos, or materials containing asbestos,
- not to remove ventilation system filters dry,
- not to shake ventilation system filters,
- not to perform any other task which would cause the airborne release of asbestos fibers.

OEHS: Our life's work is protecting your work life!"