

SHIRE OF YILGARN

REMOVAL AND DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS FROM SINGLE STOREY BUILDINGS OR STRUCTURES

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APPROVAL CONDITIONS

The following is a list of requirements for the removal and disposal of asbestos from buildings, including fences.

REMOVAL OF ASBESTOS

A) General Conditions:-

- 1) In all circumstances, the person carrying out the removal work or the contractor, whether for one sheet or 100 sheets of asbestos, must advise the Local Government Building Surveyor to find out what conditions apply to them and to arrange for the disposal of the asbestos material at a suitable site.
- 2) If there are more than 200 square metres of asbestos sheeting to be removed from a site, the contractor must obtain a Class 3 Licence from WorkSafe Western Australia.
- 3) If the building is a single storey dwelling the contractor is not required to be licensed by WorkSafe Western Australia.
- 4) All removal and disposal of asbestos material must comply with the provisions of the:-
 - ⇒ Health (Asbestos) Regulations 1992 and Amendment Regulations 2001,
 - ⇒ Environmental Protection Regulations 1987,
 - ⇒ Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2001, and
 - ⇒ Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996.

B) Health and Safety Conditions:-

- a) It is recommended that the contractor notify the occupiers and/or owners of all the neighbouring properties around the lot where the asbestos is located. Recommend that 48 hours notice is given to allow the occupiers the opportunity to vacate their home on the day the removal is to take place.
- b) The contractor should take all necessary safety precautions to prevent him or his workers from inhaling asbestos fibres while handling or in an enclosed room where asbestos material has recently been disturbed. These would include:-
 - ❑ Face mask with an approved Australian Standard single canister suitable adjusted to the wearer's head – this is the ideal;
 - ❑ At least wear a fibre mask that covers the nose and mouth, ensuring that it fits snugly around the nose, cheeks and chin to prevent asbestos fibres from being breathed in by the wearer;
 - ❑ Wear protective glasses or goggles;
 - ❑ It is recommended that a protective overall with a hood is worn to prevent the likelihood of asbestos fibres being breathed in when removing normal work clothing – these can ideally be disposable or other as you chose; and
 - ❑ Protective coverings over work boots should be worn to prevent asbestos fibres lodging around the tongue and laces, and becoming airborne when being removed.

Remember that the contractor is responsible for the health and safety of himself and his workers. The contractor and owner of the property are responsible for the health and safety of anyone else that comes onto the site.

- c) During the removal of the asbestos material either erect a sign on the front boundary that is readily visible stating the work being carried out, the name, address and contact telephone number of the contractor, and the expected duration time for the removal.
- d) If a sign can not be erected within the time period, then the contractor should take steps to prevent people walking onto the site by using a reflective barrier tape with the words "Caution" printed on it.

C) Removal of Asbestos Material

- i) Dampen the asbestos material first, but do not make it wet, especially roof material as it will become slippery.
- ii) Do not use electric tools to remove nail heads or cut through the material as these tools can increase the amount of asbestos fibre in the atmosphere.
- iii) Roof, wall and fencing cladding should be removed in whole sheets.
- iv) Do not drop the sheets on the ground or into trailers as they become damaged and release asbestos fibres into the atmosphere.
- v) All asbestos material is to be wrapped in black plastic and all edges sealed to prevent any fibres being released into the atmosphere. Any tears in the plastic must be sealed over with tape to ensure that the asbestos material is totally sealed.
- vi) The material must be wrapped in bundles that can be easily handled and will not break through the plastic wrap when tipped into the trench at the disposal site. In general approximately 8-10 sheets of material should be the maximum per bundle.
- vii) Ensure that all fragments of asbestos material are removed from the site to complete the removal process. If the sheets have been broken due to extensive vandalism or fire, the contractor should excavate the top inch of soil from the site. All pieces of approximate size 50mm square should be picked up first. All pieces less than 50mm square can be picked up in the excavation of the topsoil.

DISPOSAL OF ASBESTOS MATERIAL

D) General Conditions

- 1) The contractor must give the Local Government at least 24 hours notice that asbestos material will be disposed of at the Shire waste management site. The contractor must also provide the following details:-
 - The address of where the material has come from;
 - The owner's name and address;
 - What the material is;
 - The volume of material to be disposed – in cubic metres;

- When it will be delivered to the waste management site for burial – date and time.
- 2) The contractor may also notify the company contracted to maintain the waste management site. In any case the Local Government should also advise the company of the abovementioned details.
 - 3) The contractor will be required to pay the cost to the Local Government for the company that maintains the waste management site to bury the asbestos material.
 - 4) At this time there are no fees or charges payable to the Local Government.

For any further information, please contact the Manager Environmental Health & Building Services on (08) 9049 1001 during office hours.

Dated: 20th December, 2001