



ASBESTOS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Table of Contents

Demolishing or Remodeling..... 2

Asbestos Abatement or Asbestos Renovation..... 3

Asbestos Inspections..... 4

Asbestos Project Designs..... 5

Asbestos-In-Schools Rule (AHERA)..... 6

Certification..... 9

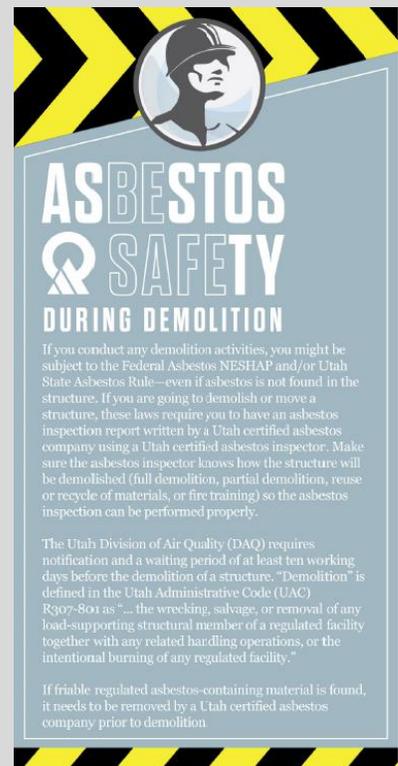
EPA Resources..... 10

DISCLAIMER: These questions address most situations, but every project is different. We are happy to discuss your project with you. Please feel free to contact us.

Utah Division of Air Quality

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ASBESTOS SAFETY DURING DEMOLITION

If you conduct any demolition activities, you might be subject to the Federal Asbestos NESHAP and/or Utah State Asbestos Rule—even if asbestos is not found in the structure. If you are going to demolish or move a structure, these laws require you to have an asbestos inspection report written by a Utah certified asbestos company using a Utah certified asbestos inspector. Make sure the asbestos inspector knows how the structure will be demolished (full demolition, partial demolition, reuse or recycle of materials, or fire training) so the asbestos inspection can be performed properly.

The Utah Division of Air Quality (DAQ) requires notification and a waiting period of at least ten working days before the demolition of a structure. "Demolition" is defined in the Utah Administrative Code (UAC) R307-804 as "...the wrecking, salvage, or removal of any load-supporting structural member of a regulated facility together with any related handling operations, or the intentional burning of any regulated facility."

If friable regulated asbestos-containing material is found, it needs to be removed by a Utah certified asbestos company prior to demolition.



ASBESTOS SAFETY DURING RENOVATION AND REMODELING

Asbestos exposure may cause lung cancer, mesothelioma, and asbestosis.

Asbestos may be found in attic and wall insulation, flooring, roofing, wall and ceiling textures, pipe insulation, ducts, and gaskets among others.

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UTAH DEPARTMENT of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Demolishing or Remodeling (Asbestos NESHAP and Utah Asbestos Rule)

1. When do I need an asbestos inspection?

You must have an asbestos inspection performed before any work that may impact or disturb more than three square feet of building materials or three linear feet of pipe insulation. This rule applies to contractors performing the work, operators, and owners of buildings. There is a homeowner exception, see question #2.

2. Does a homeowner need an asbestos inspection before demolishing or remodeling their home?

A homeowner does not need an asbestos inspection before demolishing or remodeling a home that *they own and live in or intend to live in*. The owner of a condominium or apartment complex with 4 or less units can demolish or remodel the unit that they live in. An owner cannot demolish or remodel a rental unit or a unit that they do not live in. The homeowner cannot hire a contractor to be involved in any part of the project, including waste hauling. The owner cannot demolish or remodel condominium and apartment complexes with more than 4 units.

3. When do I need to submit a demolition notification form to the DAQ?

You must submit a demolition notification form to the DAQ for all projects that involve the wreckage, salvage, or removal of any *load-supporting structural member/s* of the building. You must submit the demolition notification form to the DAQ *at least ten working days before* the start of your project. Moving a structure or intentionally burning a structure may have additional requirements, please call the DAQ to discuss.

4. How do you count the ten working days?

Your project can start on or after the *11th working day* (week day) counted from day 1, which is the day that the notification was emailed, postmarked, or hand delivered to DAQ. In other words, the project may begin two weeks (on the same day of the week) or after, from the day that the notification is submitted to DAQ. *Working day* means Monday through Friday and includes holidays that fall on any of the days Monday through Friday.

5. I will not be able to start my demolition on the start date do I need to revise this date?

Yes. If you will not start demolition on your start date, then you are required to revise this date no later than the day before your start date. You can revise one of two ways: (1) call or email the DAQ the day before the start date and let us know you will revise your start date, then follow-up with a revised notification form the day of your start date; or (2) send us a revised notification form the day before your start date. You may contact us at 801-536-4000 or asbestos@utah.gov

6. I already sent the DAQ my asbestos inspection report. Do I still need to have the asbestos inspection report on-site during the work?

Yes. The Utah Asbestos Rule requires that the asbestos inspection report *is on-site and available during all regulated work* activities. This can be in electronic form or paper form, but it must be produced to the DAQ inspector on-site when requested.

7. The structure I want to demolish is just a wood or metal building. Do I still need an asbestos inspection before demolition?

Yes. An asbestos inspection is always required before a demolition, even if the building is all wood or metal. Your asbestos inspector may not be required to collect any asbestos bulk samples and will document that no suspect asbestos-containing materials (ACM) were observed. However, your inspector will sample any suspect ACM he or she finds, even ones that you may not have known could contain asbestos.

Asbestos Abatement or Asbestos Renovation (Asbestos NESHAP and Utah Asbestos Rule)

1. Do I need to install a viewport if the area that I am working in is small with no windows and only has one entrance/exit where my decontamination unit will be?

The rule requires that a viewport be installed in the enclosure or barriers *where feasible*. Therefore, if there is no feasible way to install a viewport, you do not need one. However, if there is a feasible location for a viewport but you did not install one, you could be in violation of the Utah Asbestos Rule.

2. Is the removal of floor tile and mastic a regulated project?

Most of the time no, as long as the asbestos inspector has determined that the floor tile and mastic is in good condition, it is a Category I non-friable, and your removal work practices will not make it friable. You cannot pulverize them or reduce them to dust during removal. The removal is a regulated project if you use mechanical means to remove the floor tiles or mastic. If you plan to use a buffer on the mastic, you will be making the mastic friable and special work practices exist; please refer to UAC R307-801-13(8). Please remember that friable materials mean asbestos-containing materials (ACM) that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.

3. Is the removal of sheet vinyl a regulated project?

Yes, the removal of sheet vinyl is a regulated project. The work practices used to remove the material causes the disturbance of the friable felt under the sheet vinyl top. This project will require an asbestos renovation/abatement notification form, certified company and workers, proper work practices and proper waste handling and disposal.

Asbestos Inspections

1. My polarized light microscopy (PLM) laboratory results found <1% (less than 1 percent) asbestos in the sample/s, do I still need to have a point count performed?

Yes, you must point count any samples that resulted in trace to 10% asbestos if you want to categorize these materials as non-asbestos. If you want to categorize these materials as asbestos-containing, then you do not need to point count the results.

2. What is a wall system and how do I sample it?

A wall system includes the drywall, mud (also called joint compound), and tape found on walls and ceilings of buildings. The mud must only be applied to the joints of the drywall sheets for the material to qualify as a wall system. If the mud or any other texturing material has been applied to the entire surface of the wall, then this layer is considered an add-on texture and cannot be included in the wall system. Add-on texture layers must be analyzed as a separate layer.

3. What is a surfacing material and how many samples do I need to collect?

A surfacing material is material that is sprayed-on, troweled-on, or otherwise applied to surfaces, such as acoustical plaster on ceilings and fireproofing materials on structural members, or other materials on surfaces for acoustical, fireproofing, or other purposes. This includes sprayed-on or painted-on ceiling treatment which means a surfacing material or treatment that has been applied to the ceiling regardless of application method. The asbestos inspector is required to collect, in a statistically random manner that is representative of the homogeneous area, bulk samples of each material that is not assumed to be asbestos-containing material (ACM), and shall collect the samples as follows:

- At least three bulk samples shall be collected from each homogeneous area that is 1,000 sq. ft. or less.
- At least five bulk samples shall be collected from each homogeneous area that is greater than 1,000 sq. ft. but less than or equal to 5,000 sq. ft.
- At least seven bulk samples shall be collected from each homogeneous area that is greater than 5,000 sq. ft.

4. How do I determine friability or if an asbestos material is RACM (regulated asbestos-containing material)?

Friable materials are defined as asbestos-containing materials (ACM) that, when dry, can be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure. Regulated asbestos-containing material (RACM) means friable ACM, Category I non-friable ACM that has become friable, Category I non-friable ACM that will be or has been subjected to sanding, grinding, cutting, or abrading, or Category II non-friable ACM that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of demolition or renovation project operations.

Therefore, when performing an asbestos inspection, you must know what work activities will occur and whether or not non-friable materials will become friable. Some materials that are considered non-friable (like asbestos cement) have a high probability of becoming pulverized or reduced to powder during demolition or renovation and therefore must be removed by a certified asbestos contractor prior to those work activities. Your asbestos inspection report must reflect that requirement.

5. How many samples do I need to collect of wall plaster when inspecting before a demolition or renovation/remodel?

Wall plaster is a friable surfacing material. You must follow the 3-5-7 Rule referred to in questions #3 of this section. It is important to remember that most wall plasters have two layers, a base coat and a skim coat. When sampling, you must collect the required number of samples (3-5-7) of *both* layers.

6. I am doing an asbestos inspection for an owner who wants to burn a building. Does this change how I do my inspection and how I write my report?

Burning a building (such as for fire training) is considered a demolition. Burning a building requires that all asbestos-containing materials (ACM) be removed before the demolition. This includes all regulated asbestos-containing materials (RACM), Category I non-friable materials, and Category II non-friable materials. We recommend that you sample all suspect ACM rather than assume non-friable materials. Assuming non-friable materials are asbestos-containing will force the owner to have them abated before the intentional burn.

Project Designs

1. When is a project design required?

There are three situations that require a project design. They are:

- Private or public not for profit school buildings subject to AHERA require a project design for the following activities: (1) a response action other than a small-scale, short duration (SSSD) maintenance activity, (2) a maintenance activity that disturbs friable asbestos-containing building material (ACBM) other than a SSSD maintenance activity, or (3) a response action for a major fiber release episode. Please see the Asbestos-In-Schools Rule (page 6) section of this document for more questions related to AHERA.
- Asbestos clean-up plans require a project design be submitted to the DAQ for approval before starting the non-emergency portion of an asbestos clean-up. Asbestos clean-up plan project designs are required following any improper disturbance. Please see UAC R307-801-13(9) for more information.
- Asbestos alternative work practice request (AWPR) forms require a project design be submitted to the DAQ for approval. These project designs must include sufficient diagrams, photographs, and description to define the AWPR scope of work and demonstrate that the AWPR is designed to achieve the control of asbestos equivalent to the Utah Asbestos Administrative Rules and Federal Asbestos Regulations, if appropriate.

2. What must an asbestos clean-up plan project design include?

In order to be accepted by the DAQ, an asbestos clean-up plan project design *must include at a minimum* the following: (1) a statement that all federal regulations and state rules will be complied with during the project including UAC R307-801 and 40 CFR Subpart M, (2) the owner, contractor, or project designer will notify the DAQ at least 24 hours prior to the completion of the clean-up project, and (3) a close-out report will be submitted to the DAQ at least 10 working days after the completion of the project.

Asbestos-In-Schools Rule (AHERA)

1. Is my school subject to the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)?

The AHERA regulation applies to local education agencies (LEA). LEA means (1) any local education agency as defined in section 198 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 3381), (2) the owner of any nonpublic, nonprofit elementary, or secondary school building, and (3)

the governing authority of any school operated under the defense dependent's education system provided for under the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921, et seq.).

2. A new school building does not have any asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM). Is an asbestos management plan still required?

Yes. Every school building must submit an asbestos management plan before the school is occupied. An architect or engineer can sign a statement that no ACBM was specified for use in the construction of a school *built after October 12, 1988* but that still needs to be submitted and maintained as an asbestos management plan.

3. Can an asbestos management plan or the last 3-year reinspection be used in lieu of an asbestos inspection report prior the renovation or demolition of a school building (NESHAP project)?

In most cases no. Typically the management plan and/or the last 3-year reinspection do not contain all the required information to fulfill the requirements needed for a NESHAP project such as a demolition, renovation, or remodel.

4. What training is required for my school district personnel?

The designated person is required to have adequate training to perform duties as the designated person. Depending on the size of the district and the amount or type of asbestos containing building materials, training could be different district to district.

Maintenance and custodial staff who work in a building that contains asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) must have awareness training of at least two hours.

Maintenance and custodial staff who conduct any activities that will result in the disturbance of ACBM must have 14 hours of additional training.

Specific requirements for training topics can be found in 40 CFR 763.92. Please feel free to call the Utah DAQ if you want to discuss your school in detail.

5. How long does new maintenance or custodial staff have to complete the required training?

New custodial and maintenance employees must be trained within 60 days of being hired.

6. What are the requirements for the person conducting periodic surveillance? Is a certified inspector required?

Any custodial or maintenance staff can conduct periodic surveillance. A certified inspector is not required.

7. Are warning labels required for all asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM) in a school?

Warning labels are required immediately adjacent to any friable and non-friable ACBM and suspected ACBM assumed to be ACM located in routine maintenance areas such as boiler rooms.

8. If a school does not have any asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM), is the annual notification of the availability of the asbestos management plan still required?

Yes. Each school must have an asbestos management plan regardless of whether or not ACBM is present and the annual notification is still required.

9. Are relocatable classroom buildings (portables) required to be included in the school asbestos management plan?

Yes. All school buildings must have an asbestos management plan.

10. Am I required to notify the Utah DAQ before moving a relocatable classroom building (portable)?

Yes. Moving a relocatable classroom building is a NESHAP project and requires at least a 10 working day advanced notice. A demolition notification form is required to be submitted to the Utah DAQ.

11. Can a designated person develop a school's asbestos management plan?

An accredited and certified asbestos management planner must develop and submit a school's asbestos management plan to the State. A designated person can do this if they are certified as a management planner.

12. Our school had a certified asbestos inspector conduct our last 3-year reinspection and we added it to our existing asbestos management plan. Have we met all the requirements of the 3-year reinspection?

Not necessarily. A certified asbestos management planner must review the results of each inspection and assessment. Reinspections are included and they must also be reviewed by a certified management planner.

13. Can an abatement contractor and management planner work for the same company?

Yes, however the local education agency (LEA) should consider the conflict of interest in this scenario. The asbestos management planner might recommend more expensive response actions to the LEA.

14. Is transmission electron microscopy (TEM) clearance air sampling always required for a response action?

No, phase contrast microscopy (PCM) may be used to confirm completion of removal, encapsulation, or enclosure of an asbestos-containing building material (ACBM) that is greater than small-scale, short-duration but less than or equal to 160 square feet or 260 linear feet.

15. How many samples do I need to collect for an air clearance after a response action?

There are three options for the number and type of air clearance samples required to be collected after a response action. You may choose one of the following:

- Collect 5 phase contrast microscopy (PCM) samples from within the functional space. Each sample must be less than or equal to 0.01 fibers per cubic centimeter (0.01 f/cm³) for the response action to be considered complete. This method can only be used if the response action involves more than small-scale, short-duration but less than or equal to 160 square feet or 260 linear feet of asbestos-containing materials.
- Collect 5 transmission electron microscopy (TEM) samples from within the function space. The average concentration of all five samples must not exceed 70 structures per square millimeter (70 s/mm²) for the response action to be considered complete.
- Collect a total of 13 transmission electron microscopy (TEM) samples; including 5 samples in the functional space, five samples per ambient area positioned at locations representative of

the air entering the abatement site, 2 field blanks, and 1 sealed blank. Using the results of all 13 samples, you perform the Z-test calculation found in Appendix A of Part 763 Subpart E.

16. How do I select sampling sites for air sampling after a response action?

Sampling sites must be selected at random and provide unbiased and representative samples.

17. What are aggressive sampling conditions?

Aggressive sampling conditions are used to dislodge any remaining dust and may be used with transmission electron microscopy (TEM) sampling. Leaf blowers or fans can be used. Prior to air monitoring, you must sweep floors, ceilings, and walls with at least a one horsepower leaf blower.

Certification

1. What asbestos certification disciplines are available in Utah?

Utah DAQ approves asbestos training courses and asbestos certifications for the following disciplines: asbestos worker, contractor/supervisor, inspector, management planner, and project designer.

2. How do I become a certified asbestos professional?

To become a Utah certified asbestos professional, you must complete the following:

- 1) Attend a Utah approved or EPA accredited training course for at least one of the disciplines described in question #1. These courses range from 3 to 5 days depending on the discipline and have an exam at the end of the course.
- 2) Once you have completed the class and passed the exam, the training course provider will give you an accreditation. You will provide this accreditation record to the Utah DAQ, along with the asbestos individual certification application form, a notarized citizenship form, and a passport-quality photograph of yourself.
- 3) Pay the application fee associated with each discipline.
- 4) Once all the proper paperwork and payment has been received, the DAQ will process the application and provide you with a certification card. Your certification will expire exactly one year from the last day of the training course.

You cannot start asbestos work until you have received your Utah certification card.

3. How does my company become a certified asbestos company?

You must fill out the asbestos company certification application form and submit it to the Utah DAQ along with the application fee. Your company may certify for 1 to 5 years at a time. You cannot start asbestos work until you have received your Utah certification card.

4. When do I need to take a refresher course?

Asbestos certifications expire one year from the last day of the training course. You may perform asbestos work during that year. However, after your certification has expired, you cannot perform any asbestos work. You have one extra grace year to attend a refresher course. Refresher courses are 4

hours to 8 hours long depending on the discipline. If you exceed the grace year without taking a refresher course, you must retake the initial course and recertify with Utah DAQ before you can do any asbestos work.

For example: Peggy has taken the asbestos inspector course from July 1, 2019 to July 3, 2019 and passed the exam on July 3, 2019. She gets certified with the Utah DAQ after the course. Peggy has the following deadlines:

July 3, 2020 her certification expires. After this day she cannot do any asbestos inspections.

July 3, 2021 her grace year ends. She must take a refresher course before this date.

July 4, 2021 she is no longer able to take the refresher course, she must take the initial course again if she wants to do asbestos inspections.

EPA Resources

100 Frequently Asked Questions about the new AHERA Asbestos-In-Schools Rule is found [here](#).

Top 20 Frequently Asked Questions about asbestos is found [here](#).