

## ASBESTOS WASTE GENERATOR & HAULER RESPONSIBILITIES



- It is the responsibility of the waste generator to determine if the material they wish to dispose of contains asbestos waste.
- It is the responsibility of the waste generator to ensure that all local, provincial and federal regulations related to the handling of asbestos waste are followed when handling asbestos waste for disposal.
- It is the responsibility of the waste hauler to ensure that all local, provincial and federal regulations related to the transportation of asbestos waste are followed when transporting asbestos waste for disposal.
- RDEK staff and the Landfill Operations Contractor are not sufficiently trained to identify asbestos waste; however, RDEK or the Landfill Operations Contractor may reject a load if there is reason to believe the load contains asbestos waste that is not properly contained. The waste generator or waste hauler may be required to provide documentation from a suitably qualified laboratory which confirms the load does not contain asbestos waste prior to being permitted to dispose of the load.

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The RDEK reserves the right to amend these requirements at any time without notification. Please contact the RDEK Solid Waste Superintendent for further information.

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# ASBESTOS WASTE MANAGEMENT GUIDE

This Guide to Asbestos Waste Management outlines the Regional District of East Kootenay's (RDEK) requirements related to the acceptance and disposal of asbestos waste at the **Central Subregion Landfill, Columbia Valley Landfill and the Sparwood Landfill**.

## WHAT IS ASBESTOS WASTE?

Asbestos waste is generally defined as any material containing asbestos, in any form, in quantities greater than 1% by weight or volume.

In Part 6 of the *WorkSafeBC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation*, "asbestos containing material" means the following:

- A. A manufactured article or other material, other than vermiculite insulation, that would be determined to contain at least 0.5% asbestos if tested in accordance with one of the following methods:
  - I. Asbestos, Chrysotile by XRD, Method 9000 (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;
  - II. Asbestos (bulk) by PLM, Method 9002 (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;
  - III. Test Method for the Determination of Asbestos in Bulk Building Materials (EPA/600/R-93/116, dated July 1993) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.
- B. Vermiculite insulation that would be determined to contain any asbestos if tested in accordance with the Research Method for Sampling and Analysis of Fibrous Amphibole in Vermiculite Attic Insulation (EPA/600/R-04/004, dated January 2004) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

## WHY DOES ASBESTOS WASTE REQUIRE SPECIAL HANDLING?

Asbestos waste is classified as Hazardous Waste under the Hazardous Waste Regulation of the BC Environment Management Act.

### According to Health Canada:

*Asbestos was a popular material used widely in construction and many other industries. If asbestos fibers are enclosed or tightly bound in a product, for example in asbestos siding or asbestos floor tiles, there are not significant health risks. Asbestos poses health risks only when fibers are present in the air that people breathe.*

### How exposure to asbestos can affect you depends on:

- The concentration of asbestos fibers in the air;
- How long the exposure lasted;
- How often you were exposed;
- The size of the asbestos fibers inhaled; or,
- The amount of time since the initial exposure.

When inhaled in significant quantities, asbestos fibers can cause asbestosis (a scarring of the lungs which makes breathing difficult), mesothelioma (a rare cancer of the lining of the chest or abdominal cavity) and lung cancer.

## WHERE TO DISPOSE OF ASBESTOS WASTE IN THE RDEK

Asbestos waste is accepted for disposal at the **Central Subregion Landfill, Columbia Valley Landfill and Sparwood Landfill only**.

Disposal of asbestos waste at other RDEK Transfer Stations is not permitted. Asbestos waste must be deposited at the landfill in your area and where the site attendant directs it to be placed, where it will be covered immediately. Asbestos is accepted Monday-Friday between the hours of 10am and 3pm.

Asbestos disposal must be booked through the Environmental Services Secretary at least 24 hours prior to disposal at the landfill. Please call **250-489-6900** or email **environmentalservicesdept@rdek.bc.ca** to make a booking or for more information.

## CATEGORIES OF ASBESTOS WASTE

There are two categories of asbestos waste:

- **RESIDENTIAL ASBESTOS WASTE**, which is asbestos waste transported by a self-hauler.
- **COMMERCIAL ASBESTOS WASTE**, which is all asbestos waste that is not residential.

## DISPOSAL PROCESS FOR ASBESTOS WASTE

### Residential Asbestos Waste

- I. Asbestos must be properly contained - double bagged in 6 millimetre (mm) poly bags and taped shut.
- II. Residential loads are received at the landfills during regular hours, not on weekends.
- III. The RDEK has a Shipping Document for Asbestos form that will be sent via email to the homeowner when they call to book the burial of the asbestos.
- IV. Homeowners must contact the RDEK a minimum of 24hrs prior to transporting the asbestos to the landfill. The RDEK will contact the Landfill to make a booking, and calls the homeowner back to confirm the booking.
- V. Each load is buried directly, with the regular tipping fee for asbestos charged for each load brought in.

### Commercial Asbestos Waste

- I. Commercial asbestos waste delivered to the RDEK must be properly contained. (double bagged in 6mm poly bags and taped shut).
- II. The maximum container size of commercial asbestos waste that will be accepted is 40 cubic yards (30 cubic metres).
- III. Loads of commercial asbestos waste must be accompanied by a Movement Document/Manifest. These documents are available from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, visit <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/waste-management/hazardous-waste/transporting-hazardous-waste/manifests>.
- IV. Commercial asbestos waste is accepted Monday through Friday, with 24hr advance booking by calling the RDEK, Environmental Services Secretary at **250-489-6900**. An estimate of the volume of asbestos waste must be provided with the notification.
- V. Each load is buried directly, with the regular tipping fee for asbestos charged for each load brought in.

## CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ASBESTOS WASTE

### Primary Asbestos Containment

- I. Primary asbestos containment is defined as the immediate container holding the asbestos waste so that it does not become airborne. Primary asbestos containment must be clearly labelled to indicate the presence of asbestos waste.
- II. Asbestos waste must be double bagged in garbage bags that are a minimum 6mm thick and the bags must be clearly labelled to indicate the presence of asbestos waste. A sufficient number of bags must be labelled "asbestos" so that a visual inspection will easily identify the material as asbestos.
- III. In cases where asbestos waste is transported in bulk (i.e. waste from the demolition of a fire damaged structure containing asbestos where the demolition waste in its entirety is classified as asbestos and the waste hauled in 40 yard roll off bin), the asbestos waste must be contained within the refuse bin so that it does not become airborne when the container is dumped.
- IV. Requirements for specific materials:
  - **Asbestos insulation (vermiculite)** should be wetted prior to being double bagged. If the insulation is wrapped around a pipe, double wrapping and sealing of the entire pipe is suggested.
  - **Asbestos cement (AC) pipe** broken or cut ends must be double wrapped and sealed and any small pieces or fragments must be double bagged. Intact AC pipe must be disposed where the site attendant directs you to take it.
  - **Hot water tanks** lined with asbestos must be double wrapped in plastic.
  - **NOTE:** Sealed drums are not acceptable asbestos waste containers.

### Secondary Asbestos Containment

- I. Secondary asbestos containment is defined as the storage or shipping container in which the primary contained asbestos waste is enclosed or transported within. Secondary asbestos containment vessels (such as roll off bins or trailers) must be clearly marked to indicate the presence of asbestos waste.

## POTENTIAL SOURCES OF ASBESTOS

Vermiculite insulation, blow-in insulation and acoustic ceiling tiles have been identified by WorkSafeBC as potential sources of asbestos waste, as have linoleum tiles, sheet flooring, siding, shingles, ceiling or T-Bar tiles (dated pre-1991), cement board, fireproofing, and plaster and/or joint compound dated pre-1980.

*Thanks for your cooperation.*

