

## Asbestos Advisory & Informational Outreach for Siding Contractors

As a siding contractor you need to be aware of several rules that may affect your ability to perform siding installation, repair and maintenance activities. Cement siding commonly contained asbestos and should be considered a suspect asbestos-containing material. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority (LRAPA) have specific rules regarding the handling and disposal of asbestos-containing materials (ACM).

Asbestos fibers in the air pose a significant health threat to building occupants, employees, the public, and the environment. DEQ/LRAPA regulates the removal and disposal of ACM to prevent asbestos fiber release and exposure.

The DEQ requires that an asbestos survey be performed by an accredited inspector to determine the presence of ACM in or on all public or private commercial buildings, or in or on any residential structure that has more than four dwelling units before any renovation or demolition activities. Asbestos hazard consultants and many of the licensed asbestos abatement contractors can provide this service.

When the renovation activity involves a single material, such as the removal of cement siding, there are two options:

- (1) You may presume the cement siding contains asbestos; depending on its condition (friable or nonfriable), you must handle the materials as listed below.
- (2) You can collect a sample of the cement siding and have it analyzed at a laboratory. If analysis results identify that the cement siding contains asbestos, again depending on its condition (friable or nonfriable), you must handle the materials as listed below.

There is a Fact Sheet specific to the building survey requirement available that is outlined in a question/answer format. A list of consultants, laboratories, abatement contractors and the building survey Fact Sheet can be obtained by contacting a regional office listed below.

In general, there are two types of ACMs:

- **Friable** ACM will easily release fibers when crushed. When cement asbestos board (CAB) siding materials are mishandled, damaged, badly worn or in weathered condition, all rules pertaining to friable ACM apply. Only DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractors and certified asbestos workers can handle, remove and dispose of friable ACM. DEQ has specific training courses available that meet these certification needs. A list of DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractors and training information can be obtained by contacting a regional office listed below.
- **Nonfriable** ACM have a binder that holds the asbestos fibers within a solid matrix and will not allow asbestos fibers to release easily, unless mishandled, damaged, or in badly worn or weathered condition. Cement asbestos board siding in good condition and removed properly is considered a nonfriable material. You do not need to be a DEQ licensed asbestos abatement contractor or a certified asbestos worker to perform nonfriable asbestos abatement. **However, the non-friable materials must remain in non-friable condition (predominantly whole pieces) during the removal and disposal process.** If you remove nonfriable cement asbestos board siding, follow the DEQ guidance document. In addition, a non-friable project notification and fee are required to be submitted to the Department five (5) days prior to the start date of the project.

Nonfriable asbestos-containing waste material (ACWM) must be adequately wet and the DEQ recommends that the ACWM be packaged in leak tight containers. The ACWM must be disposed of at a landfill authorized to handle asbestos waste and should be accompanied by a waste shipment report (ASN 4) at the time of disposal. Make sure and contact the landfill before delivering the ACWM. Landfills can be more stringent than DEQ and may only accept ACWM by appointment. A copy of the guidance document, project notification, list of authorized landfills and waste



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shipment report can be obtained by contacting a regional office listed below.

Please note that installation of new siding over CAB is not allowed because the installation process renders the CAB siding friable. In addition, sanding, grinding, chipping, or the use of power tools is prohibited during the handling, removal, and disposal of CAB siding.

If you disturb or mishandle ACM and cause employees, customers, tenants, the public or the environment to be potentially exposed to asbestos fibers, you can be liable for clean-up costs and an enforcement action for rule violations. An enforcement action may include a civil penalty assessment.

Copies of the guidance document, building survey Fact Sheet, consultant, laboratory, abatement contractor and landfill lists, project notification and waste shipment report can also be found on the DEQ web page at [www.deq.state.or.us/aa/asbestos](http://www.deq.state.or.us/aa/asbestos). For further information about the asbestos regulations, contact a regional office.

*For Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook and Washington Counties, call the Portland office at (503) 229-5364, (503) 229-5473 or (800) 452-4011*

*For Benton, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Polk and Yamhill Counties, call the Salem office at (503) 378-8240, ext. 272 or (800) 349-7677.*

*For Lane County call Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority at (541) 736-1056.*

*For Jackson, Josephine and Eastern Douglas Counties, call the Medford office at (541) 776-6010, ext. 235 or (877) 823-3216.*

*For Coos, Curry and Western Douglas Counties call the Coos Bay office at (541) 269-2721, ext. 22.*

*For all areas east of the Cascades, call the Bend office at (541) 388-6146, ext. 226, or the Pendleton office at (541) 278-4626 or at 1-800-304-3513.*

### **Alternative Formats**

*Alternative formats of this document can be made available. Contact DEQ Public Affairs for more information (503) 229-5696.*