

September 28, 2023

**TO:** Contractors, Building and Property Owners  
**FROM:** Puget Sound Clean Air Agency  
**SUBJECT:** Requirement for asbestos identification in building materials

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*Renovating?*

## BE SAFE & AVOID PENALTIES

Asbestos exposure is dangerous. To increase job-site and environmental safety, building owners and contractor's performing renovation projects, including residential structures, **must** comply with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) survey requirements. Failure to do so can result in significant financial penalties from the Clean Air Agency (up to \$24,273/day of violation) without warnings issued.

Property owners and contractors, it is **your** responsibility to take actions to comply and avoid penalties (no exceptions).\*

### Prior to any renovations:

1. Check to see if a survey has been completed regardless of age of structure.
2. If none exists, a survey must be done to determine if asbestos is present. Survey must be conducted by an AHERA-certified building inspector. (you can find them online or in Yellow Pages)
3. The survey summary must be posted and communicated with anyone on a construction site who may come in contact with asbestos materials.
4. Prior to any asbestos material removal, a notification and fee must be submitted to the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency website:  
[www.pscleanair.gov/Asbestos](http://www.pscleanair.gov/Asbestos)
5. Abatement must be performed by a certified asbestos contractor.\*

### Examples of suspect materials in building products:

- Surfacing material
- Flooring material
- Thermal insulation
- Cement products
- Fireproofing paper
- Sealants, mastics, gaskets

For more information, including a comprehensive list of suspect asbestos-containing materials, please visit our website above, or contact Supervising Inspector, [Chris Kitchen](#).

\*Homeowners of single-family owner-occupied dwellings may conduct their own survey to identify asbestos-containing materials. Homeowner-performed surveys must be accurate and comply with the regulations.