



ASBESTOS FAQ'S 2016

WHAT IS ASBESTOS?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mined material. It comes in 6 different varieties, chrysotile, amosite, crocidolite, tremolite, anthophyllite, and actinolite. The Most common type found in construction material is Chrysotile. This type of asbestos was used in many forms for the construction industry. Commonly found asbestos containing material on a construction or demolition project are: ceilings, pipe insulation, fire doors, flooring tile as well as adhesive, cement coatings, sound barrier walls and doors, cement caulking. This type of asbestos containing material is generally safe to be around if not disturbed, once disturbed or damaged asbestos abatement is required.

WILL THIS IMPACT MY CONSTRUCTION/RENOVATION PROJECT?

Construction and demolition of and within buildings built prior to 1984 there is a high probability that this project will come into contact with asbestos containing material. When there is asbestos containing material that needs to be removed for construction federal agencies have very strict guidelines for performing asbestos abatement. There are guidelines that must be met prior to abatement, everything from permitting, licensing, state notifications. Asbestos abatement can only be performed by licensed and trained personnel or are subject to hefty fines and jail time.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO REMOVE ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL?

This question is a valid one because as everyone knows construction projects are usually on very strict time lines. The quick answer is the earlier a project comes up and EHS is notified we can start the process ASAP. There needs to be a quote from our asbestos contractors, this usually requires a walk through with the contractor, this means as soon as we at EHS can obtain a scope of work we can relay that to the contractor and they can let EHS know about cost, and time. Depending on the size of the construction project, and how much asbestos containing material that needs to be abated impacts the time it takes to abate the material.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO REMOVE ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIAL?

This also has many contributing factors. How much asbestos containing material needs to be abated, how easily accessible the material is, and many other factors. The short answer is the abatement is always less costly than the fines that come with illegal abatements.

Any other questions that may come up about Asbestos feel free to contact EHS.

RYAN GILL, ENVIRONMENTAL & CHEMICAL MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

603-359-0316/603-646-1797 (RYAN.P.GILL@DARTMOUTH.EDU)