



Asbestos Issues: Who Do You Call?

Other Sources of Asbestos Information

Asbestos Diseases Society of Australia (ADS)-

Phone: **1800 646 690** (National Toll Free)

(08) 9344 4077 (Perth Callers)

Website:

<http://www.asbestosdiseases.org.au/index.htm>

Australian Asbestos Network-

Phone: **(08) 9360 6202**

Email: asbestosstories@murdoch.edu.au

Website:

<http://www.australianasbestosnetwork.org.au/>

Cancer Council Helpline-

The Cancer Council Helpline provides information and support for people affected by cancer, health professionals and the community. Call **13 11 20** for the cost of a local call.

So Who Do You Call?

Please refer to the table below for regulatory or other points of contact relating to specific asbestos issues. Contacts are in appropriate order of relevance:

| Issue | Contact |
|----------------------------|---|
| Analysis of Samples | Check the Yellow Pages under "Chemists- Consulting &/or Industrial". Ensure laboratory is accredited with the National Association of Testing Laboratories (NATA). Phone: 08 9486 2800 |

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| Damaged Asbestos (due to fire, hail, storms) | Your insurer in the first instance, or Local Government EHO or DOH |
| Diseases and Support | Asbestos Diseases Society or Cancer Council |
| Disposal | Local Government EHO or DEC |
| Dumped Material | The property owner or Local Government EHO |
| Licensing | WorkSafe |
| Mines or Mine Sites | DMP |
| Removalists | Check the Yellow Pages under "Asbestos Removal &/or Treatment" or contact WorkSafe. See below for soil contamination |
| Roof Cleaning | Your Local Government EHO or DOH |
| Safety at Work | WorkSafe |
| Safety for Home/Public | Local Government EHO or DOH |
| Schools | The school principal or DoE |
| Soil Contamination | Local Government or DOH |
| Transportation | DEC |
| Workplace | WorkSafe |

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with a disability.

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Extensive use of asbestos in Western Australia up to the 1980s especially in building products has resulted in widespread presence of asbestos materials in the community. The public can come in contact with asbestos at home, in public places and in the workplace. Because exposure is potentially harmful there are a range of regulations governing contact with asbestos and its removal. These and other service and information sources are listed below.

Asbestos Regulators

Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC)

Regulates and provides advice on the safe transport and disposal of asbestos materials.
Phone: **(08) 6467 5359**
Website:
www.dec.wa.gov.au/content/view/2875/1687

Department of Health (DOH)

Regulates and provides advice on the safe handling of asbestos materials especially in the public and residential sectors, and provides guidance on the management of asbestos contaminated soil.
Environmental Health Hazards Unit-
Phone: **(08) 9388 4999**
Website: **http://www.public.health.wa.gov.au/2/1068/2/health_hazards.pm**
Click on 'Asbestos'.

Department of Mining and Petroleum (DMP)

Regulates safe asbestos practices in the mining and petroleum industry.
Phone: **(08) 9358 8092**
Website: **www.dmp.wa.gov.au/6751.aspx#7257**

Local Government

Enforces DOH asbestos regulatory requirements through Local Government Environmental Health Officers (EHOs), and provides advice on local asbestos issues.
Contacts:
See White Business Directory pages for Local Government contact details.

WorkSafe (WA Department of Commerce)

Regulates and audits all aspects of asbestos in workplace, licenses asbestos removalists and conducts periodic audits of licensed persons.
Phone: **(08) 9327 8777**
Email: **safety@commerce.wa.gov.au**
Website: **www.worksafe.wa.gov.au**
Click on 'Services – Licensing and registration of plant – Asbestos'.

Remember: asbestos exposure is potentially harmful but when properly regulated and managed the material poses minimal human risk.

Other Government Agencies

Several other Government agencies have regulatory responsibility for management of asbestos in government owned buildings and facilities. Contact details for the relevant agencies are as follows:

Department of Education (DoE):

Manages asbestos issues in school buildings and other facilities under the control of the Department.
Phone: **(08) 9264 4111**

Department of Housing:

Manages and provides training on asbestos issues associated with the large range of buildings and developments associated with the Department.
Phone: **(08) 9432 7015**

Department of Treasury and Finance (Building Management and Works):

Leads the planning and delivery of new government buildings (such as schools, colleges, hospitals, prisons, courts and police stations), and then provides planning and procurement support for the building maintenance (including the management of asbestos); also arranges government office accommodation.
Building Management and Works-
Phone: **(08) 6551 1000**
Email: **asbestos@bmw.wa.gov.au**