

# Asbestos Awareness Toolbox Talk

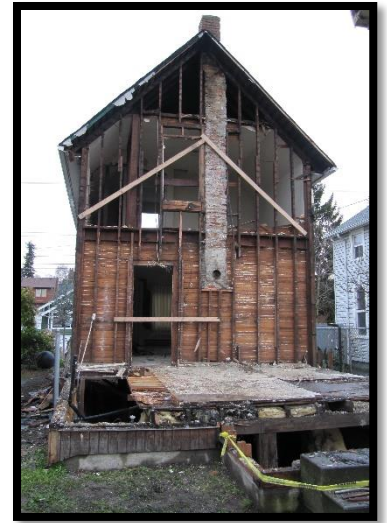
Asbestos has been widely used in thousands of products because of its strength and insulating qualities.

However, asbestos is extremely dangerous to workers handling it and to others nearby when it gets into the air and is breathed in. Asbestos can cause fatal diseases like lung cancer, mesothelioma, and asbestosis.

Asbestos has not been banned and can still be found in new products and materials. Even new buildings can contain asbestos.

## Asbestos can commonly be found in these materials:

- Attic firewall paper (nicolite)
- Cement asbestos board siding (transite)
- Dope/putty on natural gas line fittings
- Duct insulation
- Fireplace walls, floors, and fake logs
- Furnace insulation
- Gypsum wall board
- Insulation on electrical wires
- Linoleum or vinyl flooring, backing, and mastic
- Loose, blown-in insulation (vermiculite)
- Pipe insulation
- Popcorn ceiling or other textured surfaces
- Roof systems –shingles, built-up roofing, asphaltic sealant, silver coat
- Vinyl tiles and mastic
- Wall joint compound
- Wall texture or plaster
- Window putty



*L&I Inspection Photo*

These are just some of the materials asbestos can be found in. It is impossible to tell if a material contains asbestos without having it be tested by an AHERA certified building inspector.

## Good Faith Survey for Asbestos

Before doing any renovation, remodeling, demolition, maintenance, or repair work the **good faith survey** or asbestos report created by an AHERA certified building inspector must be available for you to review. The building owner and contractor must provide this report and must ensure all materials disturbed during the work is sampled. Only certified workers can work with asbestos containing materials.

Location where workers can review the good faith survey for asbestos: \_\_\_\_\_

## A Workplace Safety and Health Inspection

The attached photo shows a demolition job that led to multiple employees being exposed to asbestos. No asbestos sampling was done before the work started. Sampling revealed asbestos in the siding, vinyl floor tiles, and popcorn ceiling of the house. The employer was cited 13 safety and health violations.

**Before disturbing any material, make sure it doesn't contain asbestos. Only certified workers can work with asbestos containing materials.**

**Attendance:**