PRECAUTIONS WHEN REMOVING ASBESTOS-CONTAINING MATERIALS

Observe the following precautions when removing and disposing asbestos-cement roofing, wall sheeting or other "fibro" products from the home or other structures.

1. Keep all windows and doors of the house closed.
2. Wear a disposable half face particulate respirator, or a half face filter respirator fitted with a dust/particulate cartridge appropriate for asbestos. Respirators should comply with the Australian Standard 1716. Wear disposable coveralls, seal in a container marked "Asbestos contaminated clothing" for disposal. Thoroughly wash hands.
3. Thoroughly wet down the material before you start work and keep it wet while working to reduce the release of dust. Do not use high-pressure water jets as this may increase the release of dust. Also, do not wet down sheets if it creates a high risk of slipping from a roof.
4. Pull out any nails first and remove asbestos–cement sheeting with minimal breakage. Carefully lower, but do not drop the sheets to the ground.
5. Stack the sheets on a ground sheet. Do not leave them around the garden where they may be broken or damaged. Minimise cutting or breaking up the sheets.
6. Asbestos-cement sheets should not be reused.
7. Keep all asbestos-containing waste wet, wrapped in plastic or otherwise sealed and remove from the site as soon as possible, using covered bins or on a covered truck.
8. When packaging, carefully place the asbestos-cement sheets onto heavy-duty plastic sheeting in a cargo-carrying compartment of a vehicle. Completely seal up the packages with adhesive tape and keep them to a manageable size. Clearly label to identify contents – "Caution Asbestos – do not open or damage bag".
9. Clean up any asbestos-cement residues remaining in the roof space or around the removal area with a vacuum cleaner appropriate for collecting asbestos fibres (that is the cleaner should comply with Australian Standard 3544) It is unsafe to use a domestic vacuum cleaner due to poor containment of waste.
10. Dispose of asbestos waste in a manner and at a waste disposal site approved by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority (EPA). Contact the EPA for further advice on the handling and packaging of domestic asbestos waste and a disposal facility in your area.

If you are unsure or cannot meet control procedures - you must call in an approved asbestos removalist to do the work.

IDENTIFICATION OF ASBESTOS

List of Victorian Laboratories currently registered with NATA to carry out asbestos identification (this list of accredited laboratories was current as of 18th July 2003).

Accred'n No.	Laboratory Name	Suburb	Phone	Fax	E-mail
2867	Amcosh Pty Ltd	Werribee	9731 1744	9742 2098	enquiries@amcosh.com.au
3977	Environmental Health Services Pty Ltd	Geelong	5221 4322	5223 1630	
10732	EnviroProtect Pty Ltd	Tottenham	9315 1900	9315 3711	enviro@eisa.net.au
3110	ESP (Enviro-Net Pty Ltd)	Footscray	9689 6440	9689 6470	esp@esplabs.com.au
13234	HAZCON Pty Ltd	Trafalgar	5633 2011	5633 2049	paul.erbs@hazcon.com.au
5169	Kilpatrick& Associates Pty Ltd	Brighton	9596 7655	9596 7920	a.stewart@kilpatricks.com.au
5450	Noel Arnold & Associates	Box Hill	9890 8811	9890 8911	paul.addison@noel-arnold.com.au
2562	SGS Environmental Services	Traralgon	5172 1555	5174 9320	admin_gippsland@sgs.com