

This information is for home owners, businesses and volunteers who are involved with the clean up and recovery of buildings damaged by the recent floods.

### What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a naturally occurring fibrous mineral which was once a popular building product because of its fire and heat resistance. After associations between asbestos and poor health outcomes were widely documented, asbestos was banned in Australia in late 2003. However, many homes built prior to 1987 still contain some form of asbestos which can affect human health if not handled safely.

### Where are asbestos materials found?

Buildings built before 1987 may contain asbestos in the form of flat or corrugated sheets (fibro) used for walls, ceilings, asbestos backed vinyl floor coverings, roofing, or in products such as pipes, electrical conduit and eaves.

### How to identify asbestos in the home?

A site assessment to identify asbestos can be undertaken by a licensed asbestos assessor or occupational hygienist. In some cases, emergency services may undertake this role in an emergency situation.

**It is important to not enter your home after a flood until emergency services have advised you it is safe to do so.**

### How to remove asbestos?

Council recommends that all asbestos containing materials be removed by a licensed asbestos removalist. To find a licensed asbestos removalist, please visit

[https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=\[%22Asbestos%20Removal%20Licence%22\]&filter=licenceType](https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=[%22Asbestos%20Removal%20Licence%22]&filter=licenceType)

[https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=\[%22Asbestos%20Removal%20Licence%22\]&filter=licenceType](https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=[%22Asbestos%20Removal%20Licence%22]&filter=licenceType)

### **DO NOT:**

- Break asbestos materials
- Walk on corrugated asbestos roofs
- Use high pressure cleaners to clean asbestos materials
- Use power tools or abrasive materials on asbestos materials
- Dispose of asbestos waste in curb side collection or general waste bins

### Further information:

#### Asbestos in the home:

For further information on where asbestos can be found around the home, please visit <https://asbestosawareness.com.au/asbestos-in-the-home>

#### Licensed asbestos assessors:

To find a licensed asbestos assessor, please visit [https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=\[%22Asbestos%20Assessor%20Licence%22\]&filter=licenceType](https://verify.licence.nsw.gov.au/home/ADL/results?searchTerm=&licenceGroupCode=ADL&licenceType=[%22Asbestos%20Assessor%20Licence%22]&filter=licenceType)

#### Cleaning asbestos:

For further information on how to safely clean asbestos containing materials, please visit: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/news/safework-public-notice/asbestos-cleaning-and-or-removing-asbestos-containing-materials>

#### Removal of asbestos:

For further information on how to remove asbestos please visit:

[https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/50082/How-to-safely-remove-asbestos-COP.pdf](https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0015/50082/How-to-safely-remove-asbestos-COP.pdf)

#### Disposing of asbestos:

Asbestos materials must only be disposed of at a facility licensed to receive asbestos waste. To find a licensed facility that accept household asbestos, please visit

<https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/your-environment/household-building-and-renovation/dealing-with-household-asbestos/facilities-accept-household-asbestos>