

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

ASBESTOS PROJECT INFORMATION HANDOUT

January 21, 1997

The University of Western Ontario ensures that all asbestos removal procedures, ceiling space entry, and maintenance activities in areas containing Asbestos-Containing Materials (ACM) are performed in such a way as to prevent the spread of asbestos dust/debris and in accordance with governmental procedures and regulations.

For all Type 3 asbestos removal projects, advanced notice will be provided by the project coordinator / supervisor to affected occupants. The notice shall include information on the anticipated duration of the project, type of work, and name of the group performing the work. All personnel working with or in proximity to friable asbestos projects will be informed of the known and / or potential hazards associated with the exposure to asbestos.

A VHS video addressing the issues of asbestos in school buildings is available for review through your supervisor.

Maintenance or contracted personnel doing work on or near ACM, will adopt those controls that are appropriate to the type of work being done and as listed below:

1. Post the area with asbestos hazard signs, and a Notice of Project as required by regulation.
2. Disable the ventilation system serving the work area, and seal the ventilation ducts to and from the work area.
3. Install polyethylene enclosure around the affected area to prevent the spread of ACM.
4. Wear personal protective equipment to protect against the exposure to asbestos.
5. Maintain proper controls in the work area to prevent the release of ACM outside of the work area.
6. During, and immediately upon completion of the work, double-bag the waste with approved 6-mil polyethylene bags.

During any major asbestos disturbance project (Type 3), a qualified Safety Officer or inspecting agency will monitor the air in and around the affected area. Monitoring of the air will be performed before, during, and immediately after the completion of the project. All samples will be analyzed by an accredited laboratory.

Since the enclosure of the work area is designed to prevent the spread of asbestos fibres, personnel working outside the enclosed area may continue to work in a normal manner. However, they should note that:

1. access to the enclosed area is restricted to trained persons only wearing protective clothing and equipment.
2. evidence of dust/debris created by the work and /or lack of enclosure should be reported to the supervisor in charge or by calling the numbers below.

If you have any questions or concerns contact the Physical Plant and Capital Planning Division, Services Centre at extension 83304 or Occupational Health and Safety at extension 88730.