



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR ASBESTOS REMOVAL & DEMOLITION

QUESTION	ANSWER
<p>Where can I find information about asbestos removal or building demolition questions?</p>	<p>You can find the information in the SCAQMD asbestos web page located at:  <a href="#">Asbestos Removal &amp; Demolition</a></p>
<p>Where can I find the asbestos removal or demolition Notification forms, fees and other information?</p>	<p>At the SCAQMD <a href="#">Asbestos Removal &amp; Demolition</a> web page:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. See <a href="#">Notification Form</a></li> <li>2. See Notification <a href="#">Fee Information</a></li> <li>3. See <a href="#">Notification Form Instructions</a></li> </ol>
<p>Who can I call about asbestos removal or building demolition questions?</p>	<p>Call the SCAQMD:  <b>Asbestos Hot Line at (909) 396-2336</b>            Tuesday–Friday, 7:30 am – 5:00 pm            For after-hours emergencies, call 1-800-CUT-SMOG. Leave a message stating the reason for the emergency and that you want an asbestos supervisor to respond to your call.</p>
<p>Do I need to have an asbestos survey prior to any demolition or renovation?</p> <p>Do I need to have an asbestos survey before I send a Notification to SCAQMD?</p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An asbestos survey report signed by a Certified Asbestos Consultant is required prior to <b>any</b> demolition or renovation. See <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> (d)(1)(A)</li> </ul>
<p>What is a demolition?</p>	<p>Rule 1403 defines a demolition as the wrecking, or taking out, of <b>any</b> load-supporting structural member of a facility or structure and related handling operations, or the intentional burning of any facility.</p>
<p>What is a renovation?</p>	<p>Rule 1403 defines renovation as the altering of a facility or the removing or stripping of one or more facility (structure) components in any way.</p>



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<p>Who needs to file the Asbestos Removal or Demolition Notification form(s)?</p> <p>Who should fill out the Notification?</p>	<p>CONTRACTORS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Contractor(s) that will remove asbestos and/or demolish the structure.</li> <li><a href="#">Notification Forms</a> should be completed, signed, paid, and mailed by the contractor performing the asbestos removal and/or demolition project. See <a href="#">Notification Form Instructions</a></li> </ul>
<p>Are there exceptions to the Notification requirement?</p>	<p>YES, only for asbestos removal Notifications</p> <p>No Notifications are required for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asbestos removals of less than 100 square feet.*</li> <li>Renovations with no asbestos, or asbestos content less than or equal to 1%.</li> </ul> <p>Renovation is defined in <a href="#">Rule 1403 (c)(34)</a> and includes altering, retrofitting or remodeling a structure in any way.</p> <p>* NOTE: <b>Other <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> requirements such as emissions controls, annual Notification, and recordkeeping apply.</b></p> <p><b>** All demolitions require a Notification **</b></p>
<p>Are homeowners required to file a <a href="#">Notification Form</a> for a demolition project?</p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Only when the homeowner is performing the house demolition work himself and has not hired* a contractor</i></li> </ul> <p>NOTE: An asbestos survey report and asbestos removal is required prior to any demolition and other <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> requirements apply.</p> <p>* <i>Whenever a contractor participates in the demolition work, the contractor must submit a Demolition Notification.</i></p>
<p>For renovations, are homeowners exempt from all or part of Rule 1403?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is an exemption that applies only to the <b>legal</b> owner of the single unit family dwelling (house) who is a permanent resident of this house and is PERSONALLY performing this house renovation themselves (<b>NOT</b> employing a contractor or laborer, and not being helped by friends, family or anyone else). See <a href="#">Rule 1403 (j)(9)</a></li> </ul> <p>NOTE: <b>Other <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> requirements may apply.</b></p>



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<p>I am a homeowner renovating my house; can I remove the asbestos myself from my house?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only if you are the <b>legal</b> owner and a <b>permanent resident</b> of this house (single unit family dwelling), and you are PERSONALLY performing the asbestos removal (not employing a contractor or laborer, and not being helped by friends, family or anyone else). See <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> (j)(9)</li> <li><b>There are no exemptions for owners of condominiums, townhouses, or apartments.</b></li> </ul> <p><i>Due to health hazards and hazardous waste disposal requirements the SCAQMD does not recommend that homeowners remove asbestos.</i></p> <p>NOTE: <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> (f) <b>requirements apply for asbestos waste disposal.</b></p>
<p>Where do I send my completed Notification form?</p>	<p>SCAQMD P.O. Box #55641 Los Angeles, CA 90074-5641</p> <p>NOTE: Keep copies of your <a href="#">Notification Form</a> for your record, to post at the site, and to obtain a city demolition permit. See California Health and Safety Code <a href="#">19827.5</a> and Rule 1403(d)(1)(H).</p>
<p>Do I need an SCAQMD demolition permit or an asbestos permit?</p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The SCAQMD does not issue permits for demolition or asbestos removal. <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> requires a <a href="#">Notification Form</a> to be submitted to SCAQMD 10 work days prior to any demolition or removal of more than 100 square feet of asbestos greater than or equal to 1%.</li> </ul>
<p>Are there due dates for the Notification and fee?</p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notifications and associated fees are due 10 work days <b>BEFORE</b> work starts.</li> </ul>
<p>How is the Notification fee determined?</p>	<p>By the size of the project in square feet (see <a href="#">Fee Information</a>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removals require fees based on the amount of asbestos to be removed.</li> <li>Demolitions require fees based on the size of the structure, or portion of the structure, being demolished.</li> </ul>
<p>What are the Notification fees and where do I find them?</p>	<p>Fees are specified in SCAQMD <a href="#">Rule 301</a>, Table VI. They are usually updated annually as of July 1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A summary of fee requirements is provided at <a href="#">Fee Information</a></li> </ul>
<p>Can I hand carry my Notification to SCAQMD?</p>	<p>SCAQMD strongly recommends that you mail the Notifications to save time, money, reduce traffic and air pollution. However, you can drop the Notification in the inbox labeled "Asbestos Notifications" located at the cashier's window in the lobby at SCAQMD's Diamond Bar Headquarters.</p>



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<p><b>Can I submit my Notification without fees?</b></p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notifications submitted without appropriate fees are deemed incomplete and will be returned to sender and referred to the Air Toxics Compliance Unit. See <a href="#">Rule 301 (o)</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Do I need to notify SCAQMD if I am doing building partition demolition?</b></p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demolition of non-load bearing members (or soft demo), and/or removal of asbestos-free structure partitions, are exempt from Notification. Renovations without asbestos <u>do not</u> require Notification. See <a href="#">Rule 1403 (d)(1)(A)</a> survey requirement.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What's the purpose of the 14 day waiting period?</b></p> <p><b>Why do I have to wait 14 calendar days?</b></p>	<p>INSPECTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To allow SCAQMD time to receive and verify the information submitted and inspect the site.</li> </ul>
<p><b>When can I expect an inspector at my site; before, during, or after abatement /demolition?</b></p>	<p>ANY TIME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An inspector may visit your site any time before, during, and/or after renovation/demolition/completion.</li> <li>• Inspectors verify compliance with asbestos removal procedures, and confirm that the asbestos was removed prior to demolition or renovation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Do I have to notify for a demolition if there is no asbestos?</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All demolitions require Notification to allow inspection and confirmation that there is no asbestos present in the structure prior to demolition. See <a href="#">Rule 1403 (d)(1)(B)</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Do I have to notify for a demolition if I "know" or believe there is no asbestos?</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Although you may think the structure is asbestos-free, <a href="#">Rule 1403 (d)(1)(A)</a> requires an asbestos survey report, regardless of the structure age, prior to demolition to determine and verify the absence or presence of asbestos</li> </ul>
<p><b>Can anybody remove asbestos from a building if there is less than 100 square feet of asbestos present?</b></p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only asbestos removal contractors listed at <a href="#">The Cal-OSHA Asbestos Registration</a> are allowed to remove asbestos in the State of California.</li> </ul> <p>NOTE: See FAQ regarding homeowner exemption <a href="#">Rule 1403 (j)(9)</a>.</p>



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<p>I am a contractor; can I remove asbestos if there is less than 100 square feet of it?</p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only asbestos removal contractors listed at <a href="#">The Cal-OSHA Asbestos Registration</a> are allowed to remove asbestos in the State of California.</li> </ul>
<p>Do I have to remove non-friable asbestos before I can demolish a building?</p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ALL</b> the asbestos is required to be removed prior to demolition to prevent non- friable materials being rendered friable during the demolition. See <a href="#">Rule 1403 (d)(1)(C)</a> requirement</li> </ul>
<p>Do you offer financial assistance for asbestos removal?</p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is no federal, state or local financial assistance for removing asbestos.</li> </ul>
<p>Is there any way I can do the demolition before the 14 calendar days have elapsed?</p>	<p>NO, except that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Government Agency-ordered demolitions with proof of a written order, an asbestos survey report, and confirmation that all the asbestos was removed, may be allowed to submit an Ordered Demolition Notification. <b>Email all the above paperwork to <a href="mailto:Rule1403Notifications@aqmd.gov">Rule1403Notifications@aqmd.gov</a>.</b></li> </ul>
<p>The Building and Safety Department told me I need to call you regarding the demolition permit. Is this true?</p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>California Health and Safety Code <a href="#">19827.5</a> prohibits cities from issuing demolition permits until you provide the city with a copy of the demolition Notification that you submitted to SCAQMD. <b>See the following questions for more details.</b></li> </ul>
<p>Does SCAQMD send a letter to me or the city verifying that my Notification has been received and that my demolition permit can be issued?</p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No SCAQMD verification is required per California Health and Safety Code <a href="#">19827.5</a> <b>but some cities require that you submit proof of Notification to SCAQMD before they issue a renovation or demolition permit.</b></li> <li>Upon request SCAQMD can provide you a printout of the Notification computer tracking record that can serve as proof of Notification.</li> <li>You can also send the Notification to SCAQMD via certified mail with return receipt request.</li> </ul>



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<p><b>Was the use of asbestos banned?</b></p> <p><b>In what year was asbestos banned?</b></p>	<p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The EPA announced a phased-in ban of most asbestos products, but it was never implemented (<a href="#">U.S. Federal Bans on Asbestos</a>).</li> <li>Asbestos has not been banned and is still in use in some countries. However, in the USA, insurance, finance and litigation has virtually eliminated the use of asbestos in building materials.</li> </ul>
<p><b>My house was built in the 1980s or later and I know it has no asbestos; do I still have to have it surveyed?</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regardless of the date of the building construction, and because of potential unknown renovations, <a href="#">Rule 1403</a> (d)(1)(A) requires an asbestos survey report prior to demolition to determine and verify the absence or presence of asbestos</li> </ul>
<p><b>We have a Pre-Approved Procedure 4 or 5 plan and we are assuming that all of the suspect material is asbestos, do we need to have a site specific survey for each project?</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <p>Rule 1403 requires that affected facility or facility component(s) be thoroughly surveyed for the presence of asbestos by a Certified Asbestos Consultant prior to any demolition or renovation activity. The survey shall include the inspection, identification, and quantification of all friable, and Class I and Class II non-friable asbestos-containing material, and any physical sampling of materials.</p> <p>The exemption for assuming that a material is asbestos can only be exercised by a Certified Asbestos Consultant, and that exemption only eliminates the requirement for a chain-of-custody with map, identification of the laboratory, statement of labs credentials, and summary of testing methods to identify or quantify any materials containing asbestos.</p>
<p><b>We have a Pre-Approved Procedure 4 or 5 plan, are we still subject to the 10 working day waiting period before we can abate the asbestos-containing material?</b></p>	<p>YES</p> <p>The 10 working day (or 14 calendar day) waiting period can only be waived in the case of an emergency.</p> <p>Rule 1403 defines an emergency as a sudden unexpected event that results in unsafe condition, or would cause equipment damage or an unreasonable financial burden. An economic burden alone, without a sudden, unexpected event, does not give rise to conditions that meet this definition.</p>