Do you remember that any material that contains greater than 1% asbestos is considered asbestos containing?

Where Asbestos Materials are Located on Campus

The location of asbestos areas is constantly changing, as material is abated and, occasionally, found where it was not known to be earlier. In each FMS office area there is a list of known areas of asbestos, inside the EH&S binder. Please look through it if you need any questions on locations answered. If any of this information is confusing or if you want to obtain the most current status of asbestos areas, contact EH&S at 8-8182.

Remember that asbestos can take many forms:

- **Surfacing material** like acoustical plaster or fireproofing
- **Thermal materials** like pipe or tank insulation, even pipe elbows and tees
- **Miscellaneous materials** like floor or ceiling tiles (and glues or mastics), lab bench tops, HVAC expansion joints, hard plaster, roofing materials and tar, shingles, fan coil inserts, and lab fume hoods.

The Hazards of Asbestos Overexposure

There are three major conditions associated with overexposure to asbestos materials:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lung Cancer</strong></td>
<td>This is the most common asbestos condition, though many other things cause lung cancer, making it difficult to related to asbestos. Most cases have been associated with long term asbestos exposure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asbestosis</strong></td>
<td>This is a non-cancerous scarring of the lung, associated with high, long term exposures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mesothelioma</strong></td>
<td>This is a rare cancer believed only to be caused by asbestos exposure. Because it is no rare, it is difficult to know what levels of exposure cause it.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Remember: The OSHA standard for asbestos exposure is <0.1 fibers/cc. Carnegie Mellon uses an even lower standard, < 0.01 fibers/cc.
What Work is Allowed and What is Not

In a nutshell, you CAN do anything that does NOT disturb the asbestos materials. You CANNOT do anything that DOES disturb it.

For example:

**NOT ALLOWED:**

- Drilling into, cutting, removing, scraping, digging into, nailing into any asbestos material.
- Carpeting over asbestos floor tile
- Removing carpeting that pulls up asbestos tile when performed
- Hanging anything from asbestos piping or other items.
- Renovating an area where the work will disturb the asbestos materials

**ALLOWED:**

- Any repair that will NOT disturb asbestos
- Any renovation that will NOT disturb the asbestos in an area
- Cleaning or polishing asbestos floor tile (just don’t use abrasive materials)
- Disturbing or damaging obviously non-asbestos materials like rubber or fiberglass insulation

Special Situations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Margaret Morrison</th>
<th>Morewood Gardens</th>
<th>Hunt Library</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In MMCH, we must assume that ALL of the hard plaster is positive for asbestos, due to the results we have on the “brown coat” layer. Any disturbance of the plaster must be done by asbestos contractors.</td>
<td>In the boiler room of Morewood Gardens, the ceiling is asbestos containing. It may not be disturbed for any reason, except by our asbestos contractor.</td>
<td>On the 4th floor of the Library, there is asbestos fireproofing above the suspended ceiling in the center above and around the Rare Book Room. No one is permitted to lift the ceiling tiles in this area.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you encounter asbestos that needs to be abated, you must contact Lenny Libbon to have a work order placed for that activity!