



The State of New Hampshire  
**Department of Environmental Services**

Thomas S. Burack, Commissioner

*Celebrating 25 years of protecting  
New Hampshire's environment.*



**ASBESTOS ABATEMENT  
INSPECTION AND NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  
Asbestos Management Program- Air Resources Division**

**Background.**

Asbestos is a naturally occurring, mineral fiber, which due to its high tensile strength and insulating qualities, was used in the manufacture of thousands of products. Many of these products were used in the construction of buildings, including insulations, surfacing materials, flooring, siding, and roofing. Asbestos fibers however, are a human carcinogen, and their use has been strictly controlled since the 1970's.

The greatest potential for exposure to asbestos fibers now occurs when asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) are disturbed during either building renovations or demolition. RSA 141-E and Chapter Env-A 1800, Asbestos Management and Control Rules were promulgated to address this potential hazard, and they require that building owners and contractors take certain steps to identify and address asbestos hazards in structures prior to beginning any work that might disturb asbestos containing materials.

**Specifics.**

Inspections. Env-A 1804.01 requires that a thorough inspection be conducted for the presence of asbestos containing building materials(ACBM), prior to any demolition or renovation, in the affected portions of the facility. The inspection must be conducted by a person competent in the identification of ACBMs. A list of qualified inspectors can be obtained by calling the NH DES Asbestos Licensing Program at 603-271-4609.

Notifications. Env-A 1803 requires each facility operator to provide written notification to the NH DES Air Resources Division, and the local health officer, at least ten (10) working days before any demolition activity occurs, regardless of the amount of asbestos present, if any.

Written notification is also required ten days prior to any asbestos abatement activity conducted as part of a renovation, if it involves greater than 10 linear feet, or 25 square feet of ACBM. A fee may be required depending on the amount of asbestos being removed. Notification forms can be obtained by calling the Air Resources Division, Asbestos Program, at 603-271-1370, or from the DES website at [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov).