

PURPOSE

This guideline provides information about the acceptable disposal options of asbestos or asbestos containing materials at permitted or licensed landfills in Manitoba.

APPLICABILITY

The guideline applies to anyone disposing asbestos or asbestos containing materials. Asbestos or asbestos containing materials include both friable and non-friable materials. Please refer to [Safe Work Manitoba](#) for handling, storage, and transportation of asbestos or asbestos containing materials.

DISCLAIMER

This guideline does not replace the text of any act or regulation in any way, nor does it replace any legislation. It has no legal force in itself. This is designed only as an information guide, to be read in conjunction with the [Waste Management Facilities Regulation](#) and the [Hazardous Waste Regulation](#), and any future amendments. When using this guide, reference must be made to the applicable provincial and federal regulations.

INTRODUCTION

Asbestos is contained in more than 3,000 building materials made before 1990, including ceiling and floor tiles, pipe insulation, cement, insulation, and other building materials. Asbestos was used in schools, hospitals, and in residential, commercial, and industrial establishments.

Health risks arise from asbestos during repair, renovation, or demolition activities where the fibres can become airborne. Fibres can become lodged in the lungs when inhaled and prolonged exposure to asbestos fibres can cause asbestosis, mesothelioma, and lung cancer. Be aware that asbestos is highly carcinogenic, and therefore has the potential for loss of life and significant liability.

Not all landfills are authorized to accept asbestos or asbestos containing materials. When a landfill accepts asbestos or asbestos containing materials, proper and safe disposal minimizes the risk to human health and the environment.

Asbestos or asbestos containing materials may be designated as hazardous or non-hazardous waste. Please refer to the [Hazardous Waste Regulation](#) regarding the designation of asbestos and asbestos containing materials.

Guideline: Asbestos Disposal at a Landfill

Designated hazardous asbestos or asbestos containing materials must be disposed of at a licensed hazardous waste disposal facility or in a manner approved or specified by the director or an environment officer following [The Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act](#).

In addition, designated hazardous asbestos or asbestos containing materials may be disposed of at a landfill facility, operating with a licence or a permit, that:

- allows disposal of asbestos; or
- received a variance under [The Environment Act](#) to dispose of asbestos.

Designated non-hazardous asbestos or asbestos containing materials must only be disposed of at a landfill facility, operating with a licence or a permit, that:

- allows disposal of asbestos; or
- received a variance under [The Environment Act](#) to dispose of asbestos.

ASBESTOS DISPOSAL PROCEDURES AT A LANDFILL

This procedure should be followed in conjunction with safe work disposal practices. If there are discrepancies between this guideline and the safe disposal work practices, the more restrictive guideline must be followed.

- Any person must, before disposal of asbestos, obtain approval from the operator of a landfill and ensure that the equipment for burying asbestos is available at the landfill.
- Asbestos must be transported in an enclosed truck or container.
- If a spill occurs during transport, the hauler must immediately prevent fibers from being airborne by wetting the material.
- The landfill operator must locate asbestos in a separate area or a dedicated trench for immediate burial within a landfill. The disposal site must have all-weather access to the separate area or to the dedicated trench designated for asbestos disposal.
- The landfill operator must place an initial layer of cover material or fill over the asbestos immediately upon receipt of the asbestos or before heavy equipment passes over it. The operator must not stockpile asbestos at the facility.
- The landfill operator must ensure that asbestos is contained before it is covered. If the asbestos containment is ruptured, it should be re-packed by trained personnel before burial.
- The landfill operator must ensure that a minimum of two metres of compacted fill covers asbestos by the end of the working day or following the licence or permit for the facility.
- Any person must not handle asbestos in windy conditions.

Guideline: Asbestos Disposal at a Landfill

- The landfill operator must record and maintain detailed locations and maps to minimize the risk of exposing asbestos during future activities at the facility.
- The landfill operator must have an asbestos emergency response plan in place.

DEFINITIONS

"asbestos" means the fibrous form of crocidolite, amosite, chrysotile, anthophyllite, actinolite, tremolite, or a mixture containing any of those minerals.

"asbestos containing material (ACM)" means a friable material containing 0.1 per cent or greater asbestos, or a non-friable material containing 1.0 per cent or greater asbestos, or vermiculite insulation that contains asbestos ([Workplace Safety and Health Regulation](#)).

"cover material" means soil or fill containing less than 50% of solid waste, or other materials as approved by the director, that is used to cover asbestos.

"friable material" means a material that, when dry, can be crumbled, crushed, or powdered by hand pressure.

"landfill" means a facility at which solid waste is disposed of by placing it on or in land but does not include a remote seasonal waste facility.

"non-friable material" means a material that, when dry, cannot be crumbled, crushed, or powdered.

CONTACTS:

For environmental assessment and licensing-related queries, please contact:

Director
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14 Fultz Blvd. Winnipeg MB R3H 0W4
204-945-8321
EABDirector@gov.mb.ca

For questions regarding ongoing administration of any licence or permit, please contact:

Director
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For more information on solid waste management, please click the website below:

https://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/waste_management/solid_waste_management/index.html