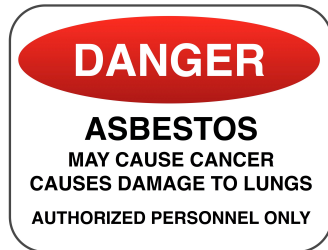


# AUGUST IS ASBESTOS AWARENESS MONTH

## ASBESTOS AND LEAD IN FACILITIES, BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES USED BY DEPARTMENT

All structures used for any type of training or work done by members must be surveyed for potential hazardous substances, such as asbestos. Asbestos surveys must be completed by an AHERA accredited inspector.

Members shall be informed of the presence and location of asbestos-containing material (ACM) and presumed-asbestos-containing material (PACM) in areas of buildings where employees work, such areas must be labeled:



Damaged and deteriorating asbestos in fire stations and facilities must be repaired, removed, enclosed or encapsulated by a licensed Asbestos Abatement Contractor.

If the hazardous substances or asbestos containing materials of = or >1% asbestos are to be disturbed during any training activity they must be removed prior to beginning that activity. Removal of asbestos < or =1% is not required prior to live fire training.

For structures built before 1978, you must assume that painted surfaces are likely to contain lead and inform workers of this presumption and direct them not to disturb the material. Surveys for lead containing paints are not required. Lead containing paints are not required to be removed prior to training activities.

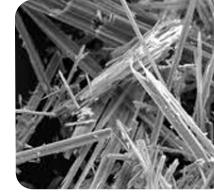
(WFC Sample Policy 12.10.01)

## ASBESTOS TRAINING

Firefighters must be provided asbestos awareness two hour training prior to initial assignment and annually thereafter, the training must include:

- The physical characteristics of asbestos
- Examples of different types of asbestos and asbestos-containing materials
- The health hazards of asbestos
- How to recognize damaged, deteriorated, and delamination of asbestos-containing building materials
- Decontamination and clean-up procedures after a fire response.
- Types of labels that are used within different industries to identify ACM or PACM that is present within structures
- The location and types of ACM or PACM within any fire department owned or leased structures and the results of any "good faith survey" done on fire department owned or leased structures

**Note:** Refer to WAC 296-305-05502 (7)(c) and (9) for specific training requirements.



## ASBESTOS EXPOSURE DURING DESTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES IN ACQUIRED STRUCTURES FOR NON-LIVE FIRE TRAINING.

Fire department employees or volunteers are exempt from the requirements of WAC 296-65 and WAC 296-62-077, provided they comply with the following requirements:

Fire departments must obtain an asbestos good faith survey by an AHERA accredited inspector from the property owner/agent prior to disturbing any building materials or any destructive drilling occurs.

Good faith surveys must be shared with all members prior to destructive training opportunities.

Any ACM/PACM must be labeled and may not be disturbed prior to, or during training, **or must be removed by a certified asbestos abatement contractor prior to training activities.**

Materials less than or < 1% asbestos must be marked by a system recognized by the members. The Incident Safety Officer for the training must walk all participants through the structure and inform them of the location of all asbestos reminding them not to disturb any labeled materials.

## DEFINITIONS:

**Asbestos Containing Material (ACM):** > or = to 1% asbestos.

**Presumed Asbestos Containing Material (PACM):** thermal system insulation and surfacing materials, including sheet flooring found in buildings constructed before 1980.

If the structure is used for a black-out drill, the Incident Safety Officer must instruct members that ACM/PACM is present and take precautions to ensure these materials are not disturbed during the training. A walk through is not required for black-out drills.

Firefighters must wear SCBAs and turnouts whenever exposed to asbestos.

Firefighters must be provided gross decontamination at the drill site by rinsing/brushing the firefighters turnouts and SCBA with water.



Hand tools and other asbestos contaminated equipment will be rinsed off prior to being returned to the apparatus or service.

PPE that may have been contaminated with asbestos must be cleaned in a manner recommended by the manufacturer and that prevents the exposure of the employee cleaning the PPE. PPE, hand tools or other contaminated equipment that cannot be cleaned on-site must be placed in sealed containers until they can be decontaminated.

In structures scheduled for demolition, or that will be turned over to another employer, where  $\leq 1\%$  asbestos has been disturbed, the fire department will provide written notice to the owner/agent that asbestos has been disrupted and remains on-site. The fire department will inform the owner/agent, in writing, that access to the property must be limited to the demolition or asbestos contractor.

The fire department will secure the structure after all drills and at the conclusion of the use of the structure.

Securing the structure may include but not be limited to: Locking or boarding up windows, doors, and wall and roof openings. The site of the structure may also require fencing.

### ASBESTOS AWARENESS TRAINING REQUIRED

Firefighters must have initial and two hour annual asbestos awareness training based on WAC 296-305-05502 (7)(c) and (9).



When asbestos material of  $\leq 1\%$  has been disturbed by the fire department's drill activities, the site will be posted with warning signs. These signs will notify entrants onto the site that asbestos debris of  $\leq 1\%$  has been left on the site, entry is prohibited by any persons other than the fire department and the demolition/abatement contractor and that SCBAs, full turnouts, and decontamination is required for fire department members who enter the structure.

### ASBESTOS EXPOSURE DURING DESTRUCTIVE ACTIVITIES IN ACQUIRED STRUCTURES FOR LIVE FIRE TRAINING

When using structures for live fire suppression training, activities shall be conducted according to the 2007 edition of NFPA 1403, Standard on Live Fire Training Evolutions.

According to NFPA 1403, 5.2.5.1 All forms of asbestos deemed hazardous shall be removed by an approved manner and documentation provided

| AUGUST SUGGESTED TRAINING SCHEDULE |  |                                     |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
|                                    | TRAINING SUGGESTION                        | DEPARTMENT ACTUAL TRAINING SCHEDULE |
| WEEK 1 DATE:                       | ACTIVE SHOOTER - PUBLIC RESPONSE AWARENESS |                                     |
| WEEK 2 DATE:                       | ASBESTOS AWARENESS                         |                                     |
| WEEK 3 DATE:                       | EXTRICATION - CLASSROOM                    |                                     |
| WEEK 4 DATE:                       | EXTRICATION - DRILL                        |                                     |
| OPTIONAL FULL DAY:                 |  |                                     |
| OPEP DATE:                         |  |                                     |

to the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ).

Before live fire training all ACM and PACM must be removed from the acquired training structure by a licensed abatement contractor.

### ASBESTOS EXPOSURE DURING EMERGENCY FIRE OPERATIONS

SCBAs shall be worn during overhaul and after overhaul unless the officer in charge conducts an exposure evaluation to determine or reasonably

estimate whether an employee is or could be exposed to either an airborne contaminant above a permissible exposure limit (PEL) for hazardous materials.

During the overhaul phase, officers shall identify materials likely to contain asbestos, limiting the breaching of structural materials to that which is necessary to prevent rekindle.

Prior to removing firefighting ensembles worn in the hot zone, a gross decontamination shall be

WAC 296-305-06503 (16), 296-305-05502 (7,8), WAC296-305-05002 (14)

Customize our program:

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