



STANFORD UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
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To: Stanford University Campus Community

From: Lawrence M. Gibbs, CIH
Associate Vice Provost
Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

Subject: Asbestos-Containing Materials in Campus Buildings

Este documento contiene información importante sobre asbestos en los edificios de la Universidad. Copias en español se pueden conseguir de su supervisor.

This letter provides notification to Stanford University employees of the presence of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in campus buildings. While such annual notification is required by California Health & Safety Code 25915 et seq., Stanford is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy work and learning environment. Contact the EH&S Asbestos/Lead program office at 723-0486 for more information about ACMs in specific campus buildings.

Asbestos is a common name given to a group of mineral fibers that occur naturally and have been incorporated into a variety of construction products such as wall plaster, floor tile, pipe insulation and asphalt roofing. These materials pose no risk to health unless they are disturbed in such a way that asbestos fibers become airborne, are inhaled and deposited within the lungs. Increased incidence of several illnesses including asbestosis, a debilitating lung disease, lung cancer and mesothelioma, a rare cancer of the lung or stomach cavity lining, have been observed in individuals who were persistently exposed to high levels of airborne asbestos in work environments such as mining, milling, shipbuilding, construction and manufacturing.

Stanford EH&S conducts on-going building surveys to identify and safely manage previously installed asbestos-containing products. Furthermore, all renovation of campus buildings must be reviewed in advance by EH&S to ensure that no ACMs are disturbed without proper safeguards. Work that requires removal or repair of ACMs is restricted to trained and qualified persons only.

Use the following measures to protect you and others from exposure to airborne asbestos:

- Presume all building materials contain asbestos until determined otherwise by EH&S.
- Do not remove, cut, drill, sand, grind or otherwise disturb any material that may contain asbestos.
- Do not go above ceilings, behind walls or into building spaces such as attics and crawlspaces unless these areas have been inspected and cleared by EH&S.
- Do not pull cable or wiring through above-ceiling spaces with asbestos.
- Do not install screws, pins, nails or hangers into asbestos ceiling or wall plasters.
- Be careful not to damage walls, ceilings or floors when moving furniture or equipment.
- Do not brush, sweep or vacuum textured asbestos ceiling plaster or plaster debris.
- Immediately report any observed damage or deterioration of suspect building materials to your supervisor, building manager, Facilities Zone Manager or EH&S.

Stanford is committed to a policy of safely and effectively managing asbestos on campus. The University maintains a staff of certified professionals at EH&S who conduct building material surveys, coordinate and supervise asbestos construction activities, perform air monitoring and provide training. Asbestos survey results listing specific locations where ACM may be encountered within your building, detailed procedures for working with asbestos and bulk and air monitoring sample analysis results are available for review and photocopying to any Stanford employee. If you have specific questions related to this information, or would like an EH&S staff member to review the above information with you, please contact EH&S for assistance at 723-0486.