



1. What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a name given to a group of naturally occurring minerals. These minerals were added to a variety of products to strengthen them and to provide heat insulation and fire resistance. For more information on what asbestos is refer to the following.

- The [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) website.
- The [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) website.

2. Where could asbestos-containing materials be located in my home?

Asbestos-containing materials can be found in many different locations throughout the home.

3. How do I know if I have asbestos-containing materials in my home?

Unless the insulation is labeled as asbestos you cannot tell if it is asbestos-containing. To determine the presence of asbestos Ohio law and rules require that persons certified as [Asbestos Hazard Evaluation Specialists](#) be used to identify, detect and assess asbestos-containing materials. This list is also available free of charge by contacting Ohio Department of Health Asbestos Program (614) 466-0061. If you decide to sample the suspected asbestos-containing material yourself, there are certain precautions that should be taken. The sample should be taken to an [NVLAP Accredited Laboratory for Asbestos Bulk Analysis](#). These lists are also available through the Department.

4. I think I have vermiculite insulation in my home, what should I do?

If you suspect vermiculite insulation is in your home, the safest thing is to leave the material alone. If you decide to remove or must otherwise disturb the material due to a renovation project, the Ohio Department of Health recommends that you first contact an [Asbestos Hazard Evaluation Specialist](#) to determine if the insulation is asbestos containing. If the insulation is determined to be asbestos containing then contact a licensed [Asbestos Hazard Abatement Contractor](#) in your area. For further information on vermiculite insulation please refer to the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#).

5. If I have asbestos in my home, what should I do?

Even if you have asbestos in your home, this is usually NOT a serious problem. The mere presence of asbestos in a home or building is not a hazard. Asbestos materials may become a hazard when damaged by others (heating & cooling contractors, plumbers, home improvement contractors or even the homeowner themselves) or when they begin to deteriorate. Please refer to the [United States Environmental Protection Agency](#) website.



6. Where can I get a sample analyzed to determine if I have asbestos?

To determine the presence Ohio law and rules require that persons certified as [Asbestos Hazard Evaluation Specialists](#) to be used to identify, detect and assess asbestos-containing materials. A list may also be requested by contacting Ohio Department of Health Asbestos Program (614) 466-0061. If you decide to sample the suspected asbestos-containing material yourself, there are certain precautions that should be taken. The sample should be taken to an [NVLAP Accredited Laboratory for Asbestos Bulk Analysis](#).

7. Do I have to remove asbestos from my home if I know that I have it?

Generally, asbestos-containing materials do not have to be removed from residential property. In fact, asbestos-containing materials do not have to be removed from any residential structures unless they will be disturbed during renovations or demolition activities. As long as the asbestos-containing materials are in good condition and will not be disturbed; they do not pose a significant health risk.

8. Can I remove the asbestos from my home?

The Department recommends that a licensed [Asbestos Hazard Abatement Contractor](#) perform asbestos removal activities. A list may also be requested by contacting Ohio Department of Health Asbestos Program (614) 466-0061 or by searching your local yellow pages.

9. Where can I dispose of my asbestos-containing materials?

Generally, asbestos-containing waste should be taken to a landfill that accepts asbestos waste. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency maintains this list and it can be found at this link [List of Landfills that Accept Asbestos](#). Before you take asbestos to a landfill you should call that landfill to find out if they can accept asbestos waste.

10. Who can I call to find out more information?

Contact us, The Ohio Department of Health Asbestos Program at (614) 466-0061 or e-mail us at ASBESTOS@odh.ohio.gov and we will be able to assist you.