

## *Avoid environmental problems and legal liabilities*

Before demolishing or renovating a building:

- ✓ **Inspect for asbestos.**
- ✓ **Use only a DEP-licensed contractor to remove asbestos.**
- ✓ **Remove and recycle PCB-containing ballasts and mercury-added products like thermostats and fluorescent lightbulbs.**
- ✓ **Notify the Maine DEP Asbestos Program at least 5 working days before the demolition or renovation begins.**

**More information and notification forms are available on-line at :**

**[www.Maine.gov/dep/rwm/asbestos/](http://www.Maine.gov/dep/rwm/asbestos/)**

**For more information on disposal of asbestos and universal wastes, contact your local Maine Department of Environmental Protection office.**

- ⇒ **Portland (207)822-6300**
- ⇒ **Augusta (207)287-2651**
- ⇒ **Bangor (207)941-4570**
- ⇒ **Presque Isle (207)764-0477**

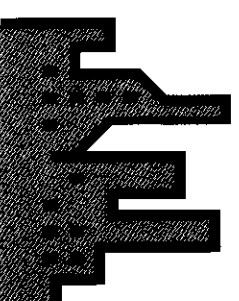


**Maine DEP**

Contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at (207) 287-2651 for more information on the "Asbestos Management Regulations" and the handling and recycling of PCB- and mercury-containing products.

**Maine DEP**

**WHAT YOU  
NEED TO DO  
BEFORE  
RENOVATING  
OR  
DEMOLISHING  
A BUILDING  
IN MAINE**



**Maine Department of  
Environmental Protection  
Lead & Asbestos Hazard  
Prevention Program**

**207-287-2651  
[www.Maine.gov/dep/rwm/asbestos/](http://www.Maine.gov/dep/rwm/asbestos/)**

## **Here are actions you must take before renovating or demolishing a building in Maine**

### **Hire a licensed Asbestos**

#### **Consultant to conduct an**

#### **inspection for asbestos-containing materials.**

Exceptions - Inspections by a DEP-licensed consultant are not required for:

- ✦ single-family homes;
- ✦ 2-4 unit residential buildings constructed in or after 1981;
- ✦ 2-4 unit residential buildings constructed before 1981 that contain no building materials that are likely to contain asbestos; and
- ✦ buildings where written documentation demonstrates no asbestos building materials were used in the building.

#### **Make sure all PCB– and mercury-containing products are removed from the building and sent for recycling.**

It is illegal to dispose of PCBs and mercury-containing products in Maine. Fluorescent light fixtures made before 1980 contain a ballast that has PCBs in it. The most common mercury-containing products found in buildings are thermostats and fluorescent light bulbs. Check the Maine DEP website at [www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/](http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/) for locations and businesses that will recycle these “universal wastes”.

### **Hire a licensed Asbestos**

#### **Contractor to remove all\***

#### **asbestos-containing materials**

#### **that will be impacted by the renovation or demolition.**

Exceptions—Hiring a DEP-licensed contractor is not required when:

- ✦ the amount of asbestos-containing material is less than 3 square feet or 3 linear feet;
- ✦ the only asbestos is floor tile, it is in good condition, and it will be removed whole using an infrared tile lift machine or heat guns;
- ✦ asphaltic-based roofing materials, mastics, glues, cements, sealings and coatings are removed and they will not be sanded, grinded, abraded, or cut with a mechanical roof cutter; and
- ✦ a homeowner removes exterior asbestos siding from the single-family home that they own and in which they live.

#### **\*There are some contractors who are licensed to perform demolitions without first removing certain asbestos-containing flooring and roofing products.**

The asbestos abatement contractor is responsible for ensuring that all asbestos-containing waste is disposed of in a landfill licensed to accept that waste.

### **Notify the Maine Department of Environmental Protection**

#### **at least five working days**

#### **prior to demolishing any**

#### **building, even if the building**

#### **does not contain asbestos.**

**Demolition** means the tearing down or intentional burning of a building or part of a building. If you have hired an asbestos abatement contractor to remove all asbestos-containing material and/or to demolish a building with asbestos flooring or roofing in place as allowed by the “Asbestos Management Regulations”, the contractor is required to notify the Department of their activity. This abatement notification meets the demolition notification requirement. No demolition notification is required for single-family homes and related structures such as sheds and barns.

### **Maine DEP**

You can contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at (207)287-2651 for a list of asbestos consultants and abatement contractors and their specialties.