

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NORTH OKANAGAN**  
Solid Waste Management

**GUIDE TO ASBESTOS WASTE MANAGEMENT AT THE  
GREATER VERNON RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL FACILITY**  
**May 10, 2012**

This *Guide to Asbestos Waste Management at the Greater Vernon Recycling and Disposal Facility* outlines the RDNO's requirements related to the acceptance and disposal of asbestos waste at the Greater Vernon Recycling and Disposal Facility.

## **1. WHAT IS ASBESTOS WASTE?**

Asbestos waste is generally defined as any material containing asbestos, in any form, in quantities greater than 1% by weight or volume.

In Part 6 of the WorkSafe BC Occupational Health and Safety regulation, "asbestos-containing material" means the following:

(a) *a manufactured article or other material, other than vermiculite insulation, that would be determined to contain at least 0.5% asbestos if tested in accordance with one of the following methods:*

(i) [Asbestos, Chrysotile by XRD, Method 9000](#) (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;

(ii) [Asbestos \(bulk\) by PLM, Method 9002](#) (Issue 2, dated August 15, 1994) in the NIOSH Manual of Analytical Methods, published by the United States National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centre for Disease Control;

(iii) [Test Method for the Determination of Asbestos in Bulk Building Materials](#) (EPA/600/R-93/116, dated July 1993) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;

(b) *vermiculite insulation that would be determined to contain any asbestos if tested in accordance with the [Research Method for Sampling and Analysis of Fibrous Amphibole in Vermiculite Attic Insulation](#) (EPA/600/R-04/004, dated January 2004) published by the United States Environmental Protection Agency;*

## **2. WHY DOES ASBESTOS WASTE REQUIRE SPECIAL HANDLING?**

Asbestos waste is classified as Hazardous Waste under the *Hazardous Waste Regulation* of the BC Environmental Management Act.

According to Health Canada;

*Asbestos was a popular material used widely in construction and many other industries. If asbestos fibres are enclosed or tightly bound in a product, for example in asbestos siding or asbestos floor tiles, there are no significant health risks. Asbestos poses health risks only when fibres are present in the air that people breathe.*

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*How exposure to asbestos can affect you depends on:*

- *the concentration of asbestos fibres in the air;*
- *how long the exposure lasted;*
- *how often you were exposed;*
- *the size of the asbestos fibres inhaled; or*
- *the amount of time since the initial exposure.*

*When inhaled in significant quantities, asbestos fibres can cause asbestosis (a scarring of the lungs which makes breathing difficult), mesothelioma (a rare cancer of the lining of the chest or abdominal cavity) and lung cancer.*

### **3. WHERE TO DISPOSE OF ASBESTOS WASTE IN THE RDNO**

Asbestos waste is accepted for disposal **at the Greater Vernon Recycling and Disposal Facility only**. Disposal of asbestos waste at other RDNO Recycling and Disposal Facilities **is not permitted**.

Asbestos waste must be deposited in the designated asbestos waste disposal area where it will be covered immediately.

### **4. CATEGORIES OF ASBESTOS WASTE**

There are two categories of asbestos waste;

- Residential asbestos waste which is asbestos waste transported by a self hauler.
- Commercial asbestos waste which is all asbestos waste that is not residential.

### **5. HANDLING REQUIREMENTS FOR ASBESTOS WASTE**

#### **a. Residential Asbestos Waste**

- i. Residential asbestos waste delivered to the GVRDF must be properly contained (see Containment Requirements).
- ii. Residential asbestos waste in quantities equivalent to ten (10) residential garbage bags (170 litre bags) or less is accepted during regular GVRDF hours of operation.
- iii. Residential asbestos waste in quantities greater than ten (10) residential garbage bags (170 litre bags) is accepted Monday – Friday between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The GVRDF requires notification by phone (250.545.6410), fax (250.545.6471) or e-mail (gvrdf@rdno.ca) at least 24 hours in advance.
- iv. A Hazardous Waste Movement Document/Manifest **is not** required for residential asbestos waste delivered to the GVRDF.
- v. The **“R02 – Controlled Waste”** recycling and disposal fee applies to all residential asbestos waste disposed at the GVRDF.

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**b. Commercial Asbestos Waste**

- i. Commercial asbestos waste delivered to the GVRDF must be properly contained (see Containment Requirements).
- ii. The maximum container size of commercial asbestos waste that will be accepted is 40 cubic yards (30 cubic meters).
- iii. Loads of commercial asbestos waste must be accompanied by a Hazardous Waste Movement Document/Manifest. These documents are available from the BC Ministry of Environment, visit <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/epd/hazwaste/manifests/#1>.
- iv. Commercial asbestos waste is accepted Monday – Friday between 8:00 AM and 2:00 PM. The GVRDF requires notification by phone (250-545-6410), fax (250-545-6471) or e-mail ([gvrdf@rdno.ca](mailto:gvrdf@rdno.ca)) at least 24 hours in advance. An estimate of the volume of asbestos waste (in m<sup>3</sup>) must be provided with the notification.
- v. The “**R02 – Controlled Waste**” recycling and disposal fee applies to all commercial asbestos waste disposed at the GVRDF.

**6. CONTAINMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ASBESTOS WASTE**

**a. Primary Asbestos Containment**

- i. Primary asbestos containment is defined as the immediate container holding the asbestos waste so that it does not become airborne. Primary asbestos containment must be clearly labelled to indicate the presence of asbestos waste.
- ii. Asbestos waste must be double bagged in garbage bags that are a minimum of 0.15mm or 6mil thick and the bags must be clearly labelled to indicate the presence of asbestos waste. A sufficient number of bags must be labelled “asbestos” so that a visual inspection will easily identify the material as asbestos.
- iii. In cases where asbestos waste is transported in bulk (i.e. waste from the demolition of a fire damaged structure containing asbestos where the demolition waste in its entirety is classified as asbestos and the waste hauled in 40 yard roll off bin) the asbestos waste must be contained within the refuse bin so that that it does not become airborne when the container is dumped.
- iv. Requirements for specific materials;
  - a. Asbestos insulation (vermiculite) - should be wetted prior to being double bagged. If the insulation is wrapped around a pipe, double wrapping and sealing of the entire pipe is suggested.
  - b. Asbestos cement (AC) pipe – broken or cut ends must be double wrapped and sealed and any small pieces or fragments must be double bagged. Intact AC pipe must be disposed in the designated asbestos waste disposal area.
  - c. Hot water tanks lined with asbestos must be double wrapped in plastic.
  - d. NOTE: Sealed drums are not acceptable asbestos waste containers.

**b. Secondary Asbestos Containment**

- i. Secondary asbestos containment is defined as the storage or shipping container in which the primary contained asbestos waste is enclosed or transported within. Secondary asbestos containment vessels (such as roll off bins or trailers) must be clearly marked to indicate the presence of asbestos waste.

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**7. POTENTIAL SOURCES OF ASBESTOS**

Vermiculite insulation, blow-in insulation and acoustic ceiling tiles have been identified by WorkSafe BC as potential sources of asbestos waste, as have linoleum tiles, sheet flooring, siding, shingles, ceiling or T-Bar tiles (dated pre 1991), cement board, fireproofing, and plaster and/or joint compound dated pre 1980.

**8. ASBESTOS WASTE GENERATOR AND HAULER RESPONSIBILITIES**

- a. It is the responsibility of the waste generator to determine if the material they wish to dispose contains asbestos waste.
- b. It is the responsibility of the waste generator to ensure that all local, provincial and federal regulations related to the handling of asbestos waste are followed when handling asbestos waste for disposal.
- c. It is the responsibility of the waste hauler to ensure that all local, provincial and federal regulations related to the transportation of asbestos waste are followed when transporting asbestos waste for disposal.
- d. RDNO staff and the GVRDF Operations Contractor are not sufficiently trained to identify asbestos waste however RDNO staff or the GVRDF Operations Contractor may reject a load if there is reason to believe the load contains asbestos waste that is not properly contained. The waste generator or waste hauler may be required to provide documentation from a suitably qualified laboratory which confirms the load does not contain asbestos waste prior to being permitted to dispose of the load.

**The RDNO reserves the right to amend these requirements at any time without notification. Please contact the RDNO Recycling and Disposal Facilities Operations Manager at 250-550-3744 for further information.**