

renovation factsheet

» does your property contain asbestos?

Asbestos takes many forms and can be found all over a typical home. Asbestos material should be removed where practical before renovation work starts.



» Was your property built before 31 December 2003?

If so, before commencing a property redevelopment or renovation, you should check for asbestos containing materials (ACM).

Asbestos poses a health risk when asbestos fibres are released into the air and inhaled or ingested. This occurs once ACM is broken, starts to deteriorate, or is disturbed in such a way that dust particles containing asbestos are produced.

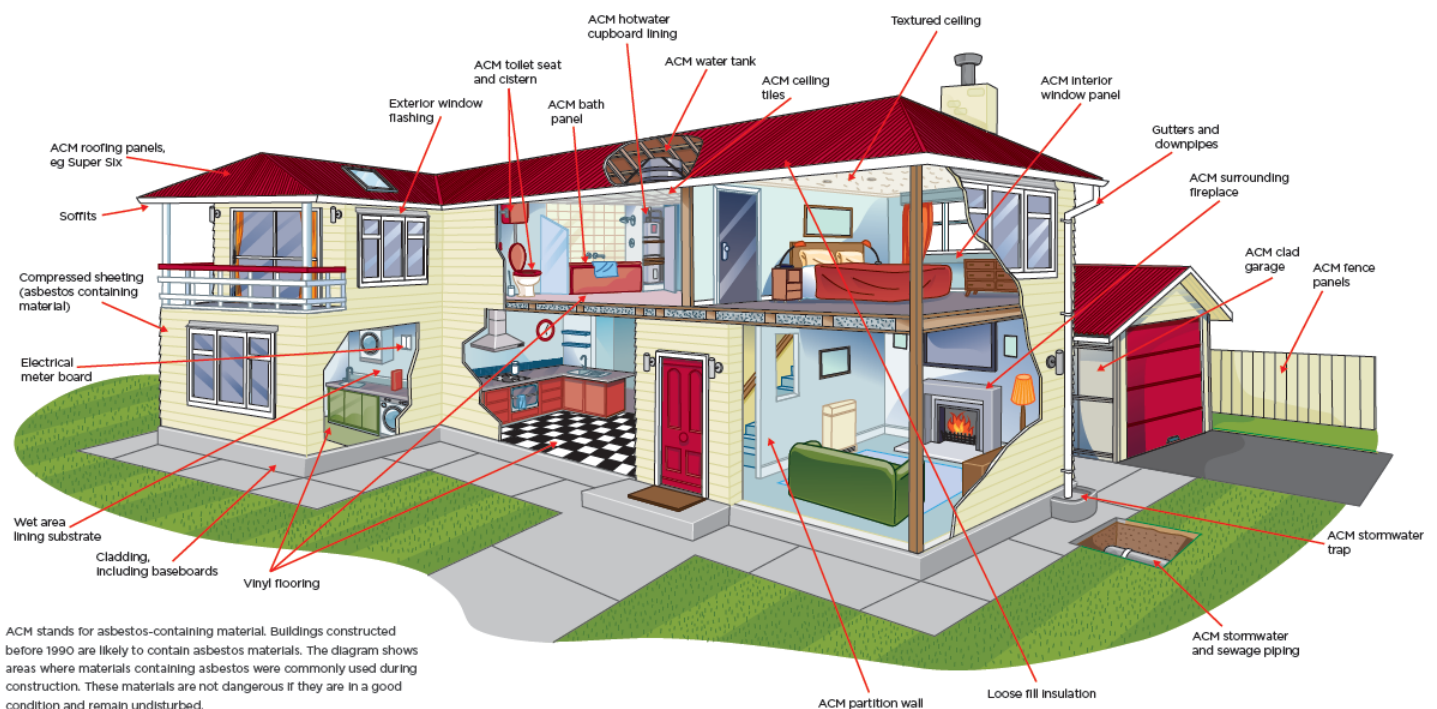
Therefore, Do It Yourself renovators and tradespeople are the ones most at risk of exposure to asbestos fibres as they are more likely to frequently undertake repairs, renovations and other work which can generate the release of asbestos fibres into the air.

Council may require a Development Application for building renovations and/or the demolition of structures.

An application for demolition will need to include information on the removal and management of ACM in a Waste Management Plan to be submitted as supporting documentation to the Development Application.

ACM can be found in many forms and locations around the home as shown below.

» Where asbestos is commonly found in your home



ACM stands for asbestos-containing material. Buildings constructed before 1990 are likely to contain asbestos materials. The diagram shows areas where materials containing asbestos were commonly used during construction. These materials are not dangerous if they are in a good condition and remain undisturbed.

»» *Is it asbestos?*

The Ballina Waste Management Centre offers a free laboratory asbestos testing kit for residential properties within the Shire. The kit includes laboratory testing of up to two samples and courier costs. Positive results are provided within 3-5 days of submission. This enables residents to accurately identify asbestos BEFORE undertaking a renovation.

Asbestos means the fibrous form of those mineral silicates that belong to the serpentine or amphibole groups of rock-forming minerals, including actinolite, amosite (brown asbestos), anthophyllite, chrysotile (white asbestos), crocidolite (blue asbestos) and tremolite.

Asbestos Containing Materials means any waste that contains asbestos.

Friable Asbestos is any material that contains asbestos and is in the form of a powder or can be crumbled, pulverised or reduced to powder by hand pressure when dry.

Non-friable (bonded) Asbestos is material that contains asbestos (other than friable asbestos material).

»» *Waste classification & removal*

The NSW EPA classify ACM as Special Waste which means that more than 100kg or 10m² must be tracked, removed and handled by SafeWork NSW licensed personnel.

- Class A licence holders can carry out work which involves both friable and non-friable (bonded) asbestos.
- Class B licence holders can work with non-friable asbestos only.

Removal of 10m² or less of non-friable (bonded) asbestos may be undertaken without a licence, however given the risks involved, Council encourages residents to consider engaging a licensed asbestos removal contractor.

»» *Where can I dispose of asbestos waste?*

Ballina Waste Management Centre does not accept asbestos waste. The following are the closest facilities that accept asbestos waste, however please enquire with the facility first to confirm approval.

- Lismore Recycling and Recovery Centre, Lismore - ph 1300 87 83 87
- Nampoona Waste and Resource Recovery Facility, Casino - ph 6662 6580
- Stotts Creek Resource Recovery Centre, Tweed Heads - ph 6670 2400.

A list of licensed landfills that may accept asbestos waste from the public is available on the EPA website at epa.nsw.gov.au. Please contact the facility at least 24 hours before your arrival, as specific handling, transportation and quantity requirements may apply.

Asbestos waste (including asbestos contaminated soil) must be taken to a landfill licensed to accept asbestos waste. Please contact the facility at least 24 hours before your arrival, as specific handling, transportation and quantity requirements may apply.

To assist residents to remove <10m² of asbestos, Council offer a household asbestos disposal kit at the waste management centre for \$30.50. The kit provides information, personal protective equipment (PPE) and bagging for safe removal of this material.

»» *Screening procedures at the ballina waste management centre*

All material brought to the Ballina Waste Management Centre will be screened for the presence of ACM. If necessary, high risk loads such as building and demolition material will be inspected in a secondary screening area prior to acceptance at the landfill.

»» *Penalties can apply*

Asbestos containing material cannot be accepted at the Ballina Waste Management Centre. Penalties of up to \$7,500 apply for disposal of soil or waste containing asbestos.

Important: if you suspect you have asbestos in your home ... Don't Break it or Dump It! Get it tested! Remove it and dispose of it responsibly!

This project is a NSW EPA Waste Less, Recycle More initiative funded from the waste levy.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact:

Ballina Waste Management Centre: 6686 1287 or waste@ballina.nsw.gov.au
Hours of operation: 8.00 am - 4.00 pm 7 days (excluding Public Holidays)
Council's Planning and Environmental Health Group: 6686 1214 / 6686 1234
Council's Open Spaces and Resouce Recovery Group: 6686 1214

