# Eco-Friendly Homes Presentation Asbestos, Mold, and Lead-Based Paint



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#### What Is Asbestos?

• Asbestos is a mineral fiber.







#### I thought Asbestos was banned?

- 1989 Ban and Phase Out Rule was vacated by the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in October of 1991.
- In 1994, EPA published a Final Rule which established the following products as still subject to the original Ban and Phase Out Rule:
  - Corrugated paper
  - Rollboard
  - Commercial paper
  - Specialty paper
  - Flooring Felt
  - New uses of asbestos



# North America Free Trade Act

 Some asbestos-containing products that are banned in the U.S, but still made in Mexico and Canada may be available in the U.S.



#### I didn't think Asbestos was still an issue!





How Can Asbestos Affect My Health?

- Occupational exposure studies
  - lung cancer;
  - Mesothelioma;
  - asbestosis

 Most people exposed to small amounts of asbestos, as we all are in our daily lives, do not develop these health problems.



## **Regulatory Overview**

 Asbestos is a highly regulated material, falling under the scope of multiple jurisdictions, legislative acts and state and local ordinances



# Where do I find it in my home?

- Roofing and siding shingles (asbestos cement)
- Houses built between 1930 and 1950 may have asbestos as insulation.
- Attic and wall insulation produced using vermiculite ore, particularly ore that originated from a Libby, Montana mine, may contain asbestos fibers.



# Where do I find it in my home?

- Textured paint and in patching compounds used on wall and ceiling joints. (Their use was banned in 1977.)
- Artificial ashes and embers sold for use in gas-fired fireplaces
- Older products such as stove-top pads
- Vinyl floor tiles and the backing on vinyl sheet flooring and adhesives.
- Hot water and steam pipes
- Oil and coal furnaces and door gaskets





# What Should Be Done About Asbestos In The Home?

- Don't panic
- Check material regularly if you suspect it may contain asbestos.
- If asbestos material is more than slightly damaged, or if you are going to make changes in your home that might disturb it, repair or removal by a professional is needed.



# What if I want to remove asbestos from my home?

- Trigger Levels
  - 50 linear feet on pipes
  - 32 square feet on other surfaces
  - Volume equivalent of a 55-gallon drum
- Home owners must provide written notification to CDPHE at least 10-days prior to work commencing.
- Opt-out Option



#### Asbestos Do's...

- Do keep activities to a minimum in any areas having damaged material that may contain asbestos.
- **Do** take every precaution to avoid damaging asbestos material.
- Do have removal and major repair done by people trained and qualified in handling asbestos.



## ...And Don'ts for the Homeowner

- **Don't** dust, sweep, or vacuum debris that may contain asbestos. (wet methods)
- Don't saw, sand, scrape, or drill holes in asbestos materials



## **Asbestos Ads**









# **Damaged Pipe Insulation**





# **Pipe Insulation**





#### **Boiler Insulation**





## **Asbestos Insulation**





# Helpful Links

- What is Banned?
- <u>CDPHE Asbestos Home</u>
- General Information on Asbestos
- <u>Renovation Guidance</u>
- <u>Asbestos FAQs</u>



## Mold in the Home

- The key to mold control is moisture control.
- Clean up the mold promptly *and* fix the water problem.
- 24-48 hours to prevent mold growth.





# Why is mold growing in my home?

- Molds are part of the natural environment.
- Wet Surfaces
- Mold will not grow with out moisture



# Can mold cause health problems?

- Molds produce
  - allergens
  - Irritants
  - potentially toxic substances (mycotoxins).
- Allergic responses
  include
  - Sneezing
  - runny nose
  - red eyes,
  - and skin rash (dermatitis)





## How do I get rid of mold?

- It is impossible to get rid of all mold and mold spores indoors
- The mold spores will not grow if moisture is not present.
- Control Moisture
- Fix the water problem





## **Consult the Mold Professionals**

- EPA's Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings
- EPA's guide Should You Have the Air Ducts in Your Home Cleaned?
- Damage caused by sewage/contaminated water



# **Helpful Links**

<u>EPA Mold Homepage</u> <u>CDPHE Mold Fact Sheet</u> <u>CDPHE Mold FAQs</u>



# Lead-Based Paint

- Lead is highly toxic and affects virtually every system of the body.
  - impact on children's developing brains and nervous systems,
  - reductions in IQ,
  - decreased attention span,
  - reading and learning disabilities,
  - hyperactivity and behavioral problems.



# Lead-Based Paint

- Lead-contaminated surface dust.
- Leaded dust is generated as lead-based paint deteriorates over time.
- The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Air Pollution Control Division



# **Helpful Links**

- <u>CDPHE Lead Program</u>
- Lead Regulations and Guidance
- <u>Colorado Regulation 19</u>
- <u>Colorado's Pre-Renovation Rule</u>



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