

WCB VOICE



November 2021

Asbestos kills. It's best to test.

Did you know that asbestos is the number one cause of work-related deaths in Manitoba? SAFE Work Manitoba's upcoming campaign, Asbestos kills. It's best to test., highlights how actions taken today can reduce or even eliminate exposure to this potentially lethal hazard.

Asbestos is still present in many homes and buildings built before 1990 – it was commonly used in more than 3,000 building materials and products. The danger to people occurs when materials containing asbestos are disturbed, releasing tiny fibres into the air that once inhaled can lead to life-threatening lung diseases such as lung cancer, asbestosis and mesothelioma.

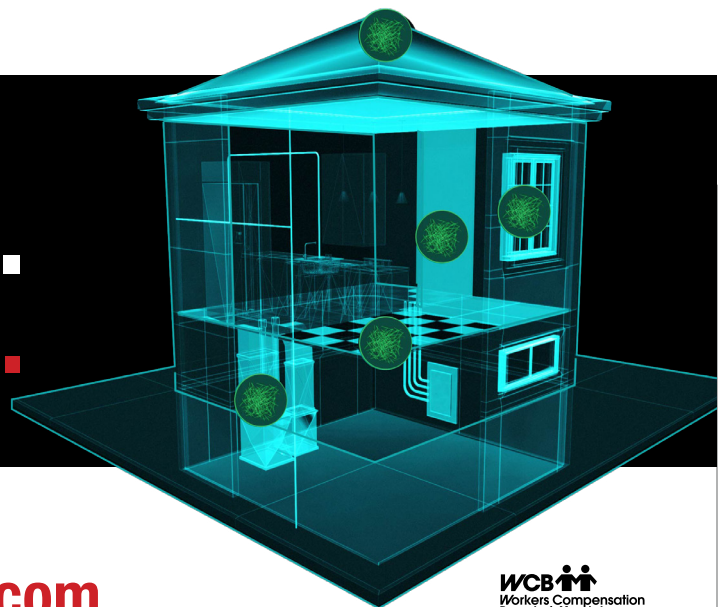
Asbestos doesn't burn, which is why it was used in many products to resist heat. It could be anywhere. Some common asbestos-containing materials are: built up roofing, shingles/siding, vermiculite insulation, ceiling tiles and coatings, popcorn ceilings, drywall and cement sheets, plaster putties and caulking, electrical switchboard panels, plumbing insulation, pipe and duct coverings, thermal boiler and fireplace insulation and many types of flooring.

Visit SAFE Work Manitoba to explore an interactive model and find where asbestos could be hiding, as well as the steps required to safely detect and remove asbestos.

If left undisturbed, asbestos materials in good, stable condition are unlikely to release dangerous fibres and pose a health risk. That's why it's important to test. If you think you have found asbestos, don't disturb the suspect material. Don't sweep, vacuum or dust possible asbestos debris and don't remove it. If possible, keep everyone out of the area and call an asbestos abatement company with trained and qualified personnel to test the site.

We all play a role in helping to protect our co-workers, families and ourselves from exposure to asbestos. Visit our campaign page at safemanitoba.com/asbestos to find resources that can help you learn more about the dangers of asbestos and how to protect the people at your workplace and at home.

Asbestos kills. It's best to test.



Get the facts at
safemanitoba.com

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2021 SAFE Work Awards celebrate Manitoba safety champions

While it has been challenging working through the pandemic over the last 18 months, some workplaces and individuals have gone above and beyond to ensure the safety and health of their coworkers. Each year, SAFE Work Manitoba presents a SAFE Work Award to a Manitoba worker, workplace safety and health committee, and workplace to recognize their commitment to health and safety.

SAFE Work Manitoba is proud to announce the winners of the 2021 SAFE Work Awards:

- Worker SAFETy Award: Jennifer Sheridan Westdal (Women's Health Clinic)
- SAFETy and Health Committee Award: Lifes Journey Inc. Health and Safety Committee (Winnipeg)
- SAFETy Culture Award: Metis N4 Construction Inc. (Winnipeg)

For more information on the winners, go [here](#).

A return to work plan helps you get back to work safely.

Learn how at
wcb.mb.ca



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Watch for our next Return to Work campaign in November!

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