

Fact sheet



Definition

Asbestos waste means any waste that contains asbestos.

There are two types of asbestos:

- Bonded asbestos: means any material (other than friable asbestos material) that contains asbestos (for example, fibro, asbestos cement sheeting, asbestos pipes).
- Friable asbestos: means 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.

Waste Classification

Asbestos is a waste that has been pre-classified as Special waste - asbestos waste. Any material that contains any amount of asbestos is considered Special waste - asbestos waste. For more information see the EPA's [Asbestos website](#).

Where asbestos is mixed with other wastes (eg. in a soil matrix), further waste classification is required by chemical testing.

An Environment Protection Licence is required if more than five tonnes of asbestos waste is stored on a premises at any time.

Testing requirements

Samples should be collected and analysed for the presence of asbestos if you are in any doubt as to whether the material contains asbestos. Refer to TfNSW Asbestos Management Procedure for more information.

Transporting requirements

Asbestos waste loads weighing more than 100kg, or consisting of more than 10m² of asbestos sheeting in one load must be tracked and reported to the EPA using the [WasteLocate system](#). Prior to transporting asbestos waste, you must check the transporter is registered with the NSW EPA WasteLocate system.

An Environmental Protection Licence is required if asbestos waste (more than 200kg in any load) is transported interstate; but not within NSW.

You must keep records of:

- Amount and type of asbestos waste generated, stored, treated or disposed of.
- Amount and type of asbestos waste transported.
- Name of transporter and transporter's vehicle registration number.
- Date of transportation.
- Name and location of the waste disposal facility

The EPA requires that:

- Bonded asbestos material must be securely packaged at all times.
- Friable asbestos material must be kept in a sealed container.
- Asbestos-contaminated soils (where not securely packaged or sealed) must be wetted down.
- All asbestos waste must be transported in a covered, leak-proof vehicle.
- Asbestos waste must be disposed of at a landfill site that can lawfully receive this waste.

Disposal

Asbestos waste (including asbestos contaminated soil) must be taken to a landfill licensed to accept asbestos waste. Prior to transporting asbestos waste to a licensed landfill, you should check with the landfill operator regarding any delivery requirements.

A licensed asbestos removalist must be engaged for handling and removal of asbestos waste as follows:

- **Class A licence** – any amount of friable and bonded asbestos
- **Class B licence** – any amount of bonded asbestos (Class B licence not required for the removal of <10sqm of bonded asbestos)

Asbestos waste is not to be transported and deposited on any private or public land (for example, as fill material).

It is illegal to dispose of asbestos waste in domestic garbage bins.

Important information

Asbestos waste cannot be reused or recycled and must be disposed to landfill. Refer to the TfNSW Asbestos Management Procedure for options in retaining asbestos impacted materials onsite during contaminated land remediation works.

Contact and further information

Internal: [Environment and Sustainability Management Framework - Waste](#)

All users: environmentandsustainability@transport.nsw.gov.au