



SHIRE OF
MANJIMUP

Asbestos disposal

in the Shire of Manjimup

Requirements for the disposal of asbestos in the Shire of Manjimup

Licence to accept asbestos for burial

The Manjimup Recycling and Refuse Centre in Ralston Road Manjimup is the only waste disposal site in the Shire of Manjimup that is licensed to accept asbestos for burial. The MRRC is authorised by the Department of Water & Environmental Regulation to accept asbestos for burial under its licence to operate # L7007/1997/11.

Under this licence, the MRRC can only accept asbestos or asbestos contaminated material (ACM) which is properly wrapped and labelled (see **Wrapping asbestos**, below). Further, any asbestos package must be lifted, not dumped, from its transport. Larger loads require unloading by forklift for safe handling (using pallets, not straps). A lift booking must be made with Scotties Excavations (the site operator) prior to arrival.

Fees apply

A fee is applicable for the receipt of asbestos or asbestos containing material (ACM). Current fees can be found in the Shire of Manjimup Fees & Charges Schedule at the Shire's website.

Manjimup Recycling & Refuse Centre

The MRRC is open seven days a week from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

It is closed on New Years Day, Good Friday and Christmas Day.

The MRRC is located approximately 4 km from the centre of Manjimup at 62 Ralston Road. Drive west on Graphite Road 2.7 kms from the South Western Highway, turn right (north) onto Ralston Road, travel 600m to the entrance gate on the right.

Pre-arrangement and arrival

Please call the MRRC on **9777 2332** before bringing asbestos so that receipt and burial arrangements can be made in advance.

Any person arriving at the site with asbestos for disposal must stop at the entry kiosk and notify the site attendant before proceeding. The person depositing asbestos must complete and sign an Asbestos Disposal form in the Asbestos Disposal Register at the MRRC prior to the material being accepted.

Wrapping asbestos

All asbestos presented at the MRRC for disposal must be securely wrapped.

- For **very small quantities or fragments**, double-bag using at least two heavy-duty plastic bin liners and securely tie the top. The bag can be further reinforced by wrapping with tape.
OR
- For **larger pieces**, wrap in builder's construction-grade plastic sheeting (200 µm) and securely tape (using strongly adhesive waterproof tape e.g. duct tape) and place on a pallet.
OR
- For **asbestos pieces mixed with rubble or other materials** (e.g. from a building fire), the entire mix should be placed in a bulk fertiliser bag and the top sealed as above with builder's construction-grade plastic (200 µm) and the bag placed on a pallet.
AND
- All packages containing asbestos presented for disposal must be clearly labelled **ASBESTOS** in lettering at least 50 mm (2 inches) high and which stands out from the wrapping to assist in ensuring asbestos packages are not inadvertently directed to landfill.

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Further information

DISCLAIMER: The following information is provided as a guide only and should not be regarded as expert advice. Readers intending to handle or remove and dispose of asbestos should seek further advice from appropriate agencies or from individuals or businesses trained and currently licensed to remove asbestos.

Forms of asbestos

Asbestos is the name given to a group of naturally-occurring minerals found in some rock formations. Three types of asbestos have in the past been mined in Australia: white, blue and brown, however, none are mined in Australia now and all are banned from import.

Mined asbestos can be broken down into loose or clumped fibres. These fibres were mixed with other materials (e.g. cement) to manufacture various building products.

Asbestos-containing building products are classified as either **friable** (soft, crumbly) or **bonded** (solid, rigid or non-friable).

The dangers of asbestos

Asbestos, in any form (discrete material or as minute fragments and fibres in an asbestos containing material or ACM) is a hazardous substance and great care should be exercised in all aspects of handling it.

Asbestos fibres are not visible to the naked eye. They are very light and can remain airborne for a long time, allowing them to travel large distances on air currents.

Inhaling asbestos fibres may cause asbestos-related disease or death. The risk increases with exposure to asbestos fibres.

Always wear appropriate personal protective equipment when handling any form of asbestos, including gloves, disposable coveralls, safety boots and a class P1 or P2 disposable respirator.

References

These references, available on the internet, may be of use when preparing to remove and dispose of asbestos:

Asbestos: a guide for householders and the general public (Feb 2013)

- enHealth

How to tell the difference between Super Six and Hardifence (Sept 2009)

- Shire of Carnarvon

Is a licence required?

A licence is not required to remove ten square metres or less of *non-friable* asbestos material, however, all asbestos removal work must be carried out properly using safe work procedures and systems of work.

There is a duty of care that all removal of asbestos containing materials is carried out in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984, the Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996 and Part 9 of the Code of Practice for the Safe Removal of Asbestos 2nd Edition [NOHSC: 2002 (2005)] and the Code of Practice for the Management and control of asbestos in workplaces.

Over ten (10) square metres must be removed by a licensed and trained individual or business.

Licensed asbestos removalists

WorkSafe is the division of the Department of Commerce which, as a part of its role in workplace safety and health, issues licences to perform asbestos work in Western Australia.

There are two types of asbestos removal licence: *restricted* and *unrestricted*.

Restricted asbestos removal licence allows the holder (or people the holder employs) to remove bonded (non-friable) asbestos exceeding 10 square metres.

Unrestricted asbestos removal licence allows the holder (or people the holder employs) to remove all forms of asbestos.

WorkSafe has lists of restricted and unrestricted licence holders. Lists are updated every month. These lists can be found at:

www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/finding-and-selecting-asbestos-licence-holder

OR contact the Shire of Manjimup Waste Management Officer on 9771 7743 or email mark.sewell@manjimup.wa.gov.au