DEMOLOISHING?
CHECK FOR ASBESTOS BEFORE YOU START

Definition of demolition: (SWCAA Regulation 476) Demolition means the wrecking, dismantling, removal of any load-supporting structural member on, or the intentional burning of, any building, vessel, structure, or portion thereof, rendering the structure uninhabitable. Demolition includes the removal of a facility from its foundation followed by relocation of the facility onto a new foundation at a different location.

You cannot legally start any demolition project or most renovation projects until certain asbestos requirements are met...

- Conduct an asbestos survey.
  The survey must be conducted by an AHERA-certified building inspector. (AHERA stands for Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response Act.) These inspectors are listed in the phone book yellow pages under “Asbestos Consulting and Testing” and on SWCAA’s website at www.swcleanair.org/asbestos.html.

- File a Notification of Demolition.
  A completed notification and fee must be submitted to the Southwest Clean Air Agency (SWCAA). Forms are available online at www.swcleanair.org/forms.html.

- Wait.
  A 10 day waiting period applies to all asbestos demolition projects except in emergency situations with prior agency approval. This federally-mandated waiting period gives SWCAA a chance to review and/or inspect projects to ensure compliance. Homeowners doing their own work are required to submit a 24-hour asbestos removal notification but must still wait 10 days after submitting a Notification of Demolition.

- Properly remove asbestos.
  All asbestos-containing materials identified in the AHERA survey must be removed from the structure by a certified asbestos contractor prior to demolition, but after submitting a Notice of Intent to Remove Asbestos and observing a 10 day waiting period.

For more information
This document contains only a brief summary of asbestos requirements. For full details, contact the Southwest Clean Air Agency at www.swcleanair.org/asbestos.html, or call 360-574-3058. Failure to comply with the asbestos requirements of SWCAA Regulation 476 may result in penalties.

Note to contractors
A demolition permit must also be obtained from the city or county building department. Check with L&I for additional requirements at www.lni.wa.gov, or call:
Vancouver L&I office: 360-896-2300
Kelso L&I office: 360-575-6900
RENOVATING?
CHECK FOR ASBESTOS BEFORE YOU START

Definition of renovation: (SWCAA Regulation 476) Renovation means the modification of any existing building, vessel, structure, component, or portion thereof, not including demolition.

You cannot legally start most renovation projects or any demolition projects until certain asbestos requirements are met...

- **Conduct an asbestos survey of suspect asbestos-containing materials.**
  For almost all structures, an AHERA-certified building inspector must perform the survey/inspection. (AHERA stands for Asbestos Hazardous Emergency Response Act.) The only exception is for owner-occupied, single-family, non-multiple-unit dwellings where owners may conduct their own survey for suspect asbestos-containing materials if they are doing the renovation themselves. If asbestos-containing materials (ACM) are found, they must be avoided (not disturbed) or properly removed prior to the renovation.

- **File a Notice of Intent to Remove Asbestos.**
  If any ACM is going to be removed from the structure, a Notice of Intent to Remove Asbestos and fee must be submitted to the Southwest Clean Air Agency. Forms are available online at www.swcleanair.org/forms.html. If no ACM was found, a copy of the inspection report must be available on-site.

- **Wait.**
  A 10 day waiting period applies to all asbestos projects except in emergency situations with prior agency approval. This waiting period gives SWCAA a chance to review and/or inspect projects to ensure compliance. Homeowners doing their own work are required to submit an asbestos notification 24 hours prior to removing or disturbing ACM.

- **Properly remove asbestos.**
  Abatement work must be performed by a certified asbestos contractor, except that homeowners may perform asbestos removal work in their owner-occupied, single-family, non-multiple-unit dwellings. Homeowner instructions are available from the Southwest Clean Air Agency for removal of popcorn ceilings, sheet vinyl flooring and cement-asbestos board siding.

For more information
This document contains only a brief summary of asbestos requirements. For full details, contact the Southwest Clean Air Agency at www.swcleanair.org/asbestos.html, or call 360-574-3058. **Failure to comply with asbestos requirements of SWCAA Regulation 476 may result in penalties.**

Note to contractors
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