Asbestos has been used in building materials due to its desirable properties including: high tensile strength, fire resistance, and insulation qualities. Many buildings at the University of Washington contain asbestos-containing material (ACM).

Asbestos may be found in almost any type of building materials or consumer product. It was often used in flooring materials, pipe insulation, wallboard joint compounds, and construction glues and mastics.

In the near future, the University will begin labeling to identify accessible and easily damaged ACM building materials on campus. Please be particularly aware of these materials, but remember that intact and well-maintained ACM poses no health hazard to building occupants.

If ACMs are disturbed or damaged, asbestos fibers may be released into the air. Building occupants should take care to avoid damaging or disturbing installed building components. Disturbance or damage of ACM should be reported to the building coordinator or Facilities Services (Engineering Services at Harborview and UWMC) immediately for prompt clean-up and repair.

If your office or work space has vinyl floor tiles, the castors or glides on your chair may be damaging the tile, potentially releasing asbestos fibers into the air. For more information on how to obtain a floor mat to properly protect your floor, go to www.ehs.washington.edu/ohsasbestos

For further information:

- If you have questions about asbestos hazards and protection, call EH&S Occupational Health and Safety Office at 206.543.7388.
- If you have questions about asbestos repair and removal projects, contact: UW Seattle – Facilities Services Asbestos Coordinator 206.685.3357 UW Bothell – Facilities Services 425.352.5466 UW Tacoma – Facilities Services 253.692.5700 Harborview Medical Center – Engineering Services 206.744.3191 UW Medical Center – Engineering Services 206.598.4911
- For concerns specific to your building, contact your building coordinator:

  NAME: ____________________________________________

  PHONE: ____________________________________________

Take the required online Asbestos General Awareness Training available at: www.ehs.washington.edu/psotrain/corsdesc.shtm