PREVENT ASBESTOS EXPOSURE

Prevent potential asbestos exposure to yourself and others by doing the following:

➢ **Immediately report damaged** ceilings, walls, insulation, floor tiles, or other building materials to EH&S at 206.543.7262 or to your facility manager (Facilities Regulated Materials Office on the Seattle campus).

➢ **Request a building materials survey** prior to the start of a project that may involve disturbing building materials that may contain asbestos.

   If an asbestos survey has not been conducted, all building materials are treated as asbestos-containing until it’s confirmed they do not contain asbestos.

➢ **Do not enter** construction areas or restricted access areas.

PROTECT FLOOR TILES

Floor tiles can contain low percentages of asbestos bound into a matrix that reduces the potential for the release of asbestos-containing fibers. Over time, however, the wear and tear on floors by rolling or sliding chairs and moving furniture or equipment can damage floor tiles. **Damaged floor tiles can release particles that may include asbestos fibers.**

EH&S and UW Facilities request that departments purchase **floor mats** to protect floors from chair casters and prevent floor tile damage.

If your floor tile or sheeting already shows signs of wear, contact your facility manager (UW Facilities on the Seattle campus) to assess its condition and whether it contains asbestos.

EH&S coordinates with University units and departments to evaluate potential risk of asbestos exposure and implement controls if needed.

MORE INFORMATION

Visit the Asbestos and Other Regulated Building Materials webpage on the EH&S website for additional guidance and information on preventing exposures to regulated building materials.

Contact EH&S at 206.543.7388 or ehsdept@uw.edu for more information.