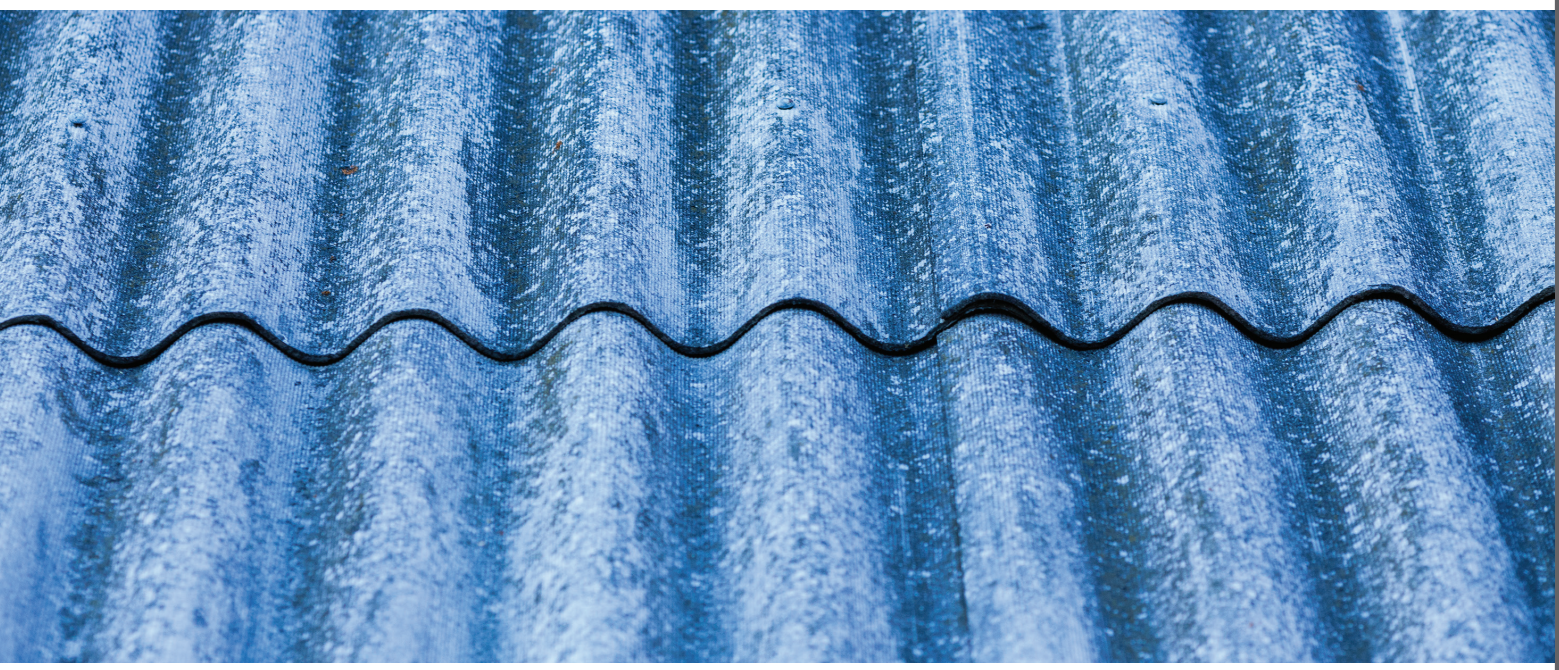
IPSWICH WASTE SERVICES

Ipswich Waste Services a division of Ipswich City Council

Asbestos

Disposal



Asbestos hazards

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral made up of strong fibres that have fire, heat and chemical resistant properties.

Asbestos fibres are 50-200 times thinner than a hair, can float in the air for a long time, are invisible to the naked eye, and can be breathed into the lungs.

Why is asbestos dangerous?

Asbestos can pose a risk if fibres become airborne, are inhaled and reach deep into the lungs in sufficient quantities.

These fibres are a major health hazard and can cause serious asbestos-related diseases that can take decades to become apparent. Breathing in asbestos fibres has been linked to the following respiratory diseases:

- Asbestosis (progressive and irreversible scarring of lung tissue that impairs breathing)
- Lung Cancer Mesothelioma (a cancer of the linings around the lungs and abdomen).

Where is asbestos commonly found in waste from domestic sources?

Asbestos materials used in houses are normally bonded with other materials and are commonly referred to as fibro, asbestos cement, or AC sheeting. Common products/trade names include Hardiplank, Super Six roof sheeting, Millboard, Asbestos Insulating Board, and Asbestolux. Loose friable 'unbonded' asbestos is sometimes found in lagging or as a backing material to vinyl sheet flooring.

How to protect you and your family when removing asbestos?

It is import to make yourself familiar with the safe removal and handling practices for asbestos. There are also legal requirements that you are expected to follow. All these requirements are detailed on the Workplace Health and Safety Queensland website at Worksafe.qld.gov.au.

Transporting asbestos waste

Queensland's environmental management legislation requires anyone that transports 250kg or more of waste asbestos, on a non-commercial basis, to be a licenced regulated waste transporter. (Anyone that transports any asbestos on a commercial basis also requires this licence.)

If you have 250kg or more of waste asbestos from your home that requires disposal, the best option is to engage a commercial waste contractor to undertake the transport and disposal. Ipswich Waste Services (IWS) offers asbestos bins to Ipswich residents at very competitive rates.

IWS can only supply skips and liners for the transporting of asbestos.

Services provided by IWS

Industrial general waste, industrial cardboard/paper, industrial commingled recycling, commercial refuse and recycling wheelie bins, commercial waste audits, document destruction for confidential material, clinical waste, skips and RORO's for domestic and commercial use.

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