



Physics Division ESH Bulletin 94-1

ASBESTOS

In the 1970s, the government took steps to ban the use of asbestos in some products, and many products were voluntarily removed from the marketplace. However, asbestos still exists, especially in older equipment and buildings. Know where to look for asbestos:

acoustic ceiling tiles
textured spray finishes or paints
cement-asbestos-(wall)board (CAB)
vinyl floor sheets, tile, or underfacing
adhesives, epoxies
brake pads or linings, clutch facings
gaskets, grout, putty
pipe and building insulation
spray fireproofing on steel beams
roofing felts, shingles
cement, fire brick

water heaters
clothes dryers
range hoods
dishwashers
refrigerators, freezers
portable heaters
ovens, toasters
hair dryers
fireplace logs
fireproof safes
fireproof filing cabinets

At ORNL, we use a warning label to identify the potential hazards of friable asbestos. Although asbestos may be present in many locations in your home or workplace, its mere presence does not necessarily pose a hazard. You should be aware of the locations of materials and equipment that could possibly contain asbestos in order to decide if and when action is appropriate. Contact your ESH Officer (6-0240) for more information.

