
General Policy

ASBESTOS DISPOSAL POLICY

- Intent** This Policy is intended to provide direction to the general public on the requirements for the disposal of domestic generated asbestos at Council's Portsmith Waste Transfer Station. This policy is not intended to provide detailed advice on all aspects of handling and transporting asbestos waste.
- Scope** This Policy applies to all domestic customers intending to dispose of less than 175kg of asbestos to the Portsmith Transfer Station.

BACKGROUND

Asbestos is extremely hazardous as it is easily liberated into the atmosphere and if inhaled may cause serious health concerns including death. People are most at risk of asbestos exposure when removing or renovating old houses, and when handling or coming into contact with damaged asbestos materials. Prior to dealing with asbestos material it is strongly advised to consult with the department of Workplace Health and Safety for advice on the procedures and personal protective equipment needed during the demolition/removal of asbestos fixtures. It is also advised that it is best practice to use qualified contractors or suitably trained personnel when dealing with asbestos material.

PROVISIONS

Asbestos products being removed should be moistened with water to limit the potential for asbestos fibres to be released into the air. Asbestos material must be double-wrapped in heavy duty builder's plastic to prevent punctures from sharp edges and sealed to prevent the escape of air and dust. Wrapped asbestos material must be labelled in accordance with the asbestos advisory standard clearly identifying the contents and relevant safety precautions. Asbestos labelled tape may be purchased from selected retail outlets.

ACCEPTANCE OF ASBESTOS

Asbestos will only be accepted at Portsmith Waste Transfer Station and must be in small manageable bundles which can be lifted by hand by the customer. The total amount being disposed must not exceed 175kg.

Asbestos products and estimated weight must be declared at the Portsmith Waste Transfer Station weighbridge upon entry to the site. Weighbridge operators will inspect loads containing asbestos to verify wrapping, labelling and weight acceptance criteria. Weighbridge staff have the right to refuse acceptance of asbestos products if non-conforming with regulatory waste handling requirements and quantity limits defined above.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON ASBESTOS HANDLING

Further information on Asbestos is available on the web at <https://www.asbestos.qld.gov.au/> or at www.worksafe.qld.gov.au. Alternatively contact the following:

- Department of Workplace Health and Safety Ph. 1300 362 128
- Department of Environment and Science Ph. 13 74 68
- Cairns Regional Council Customer Service Centre Ph. 1300 69 22 47

Advice regarding asbestos related diseases can be obtained from the following:

- Asbestos Disease Support Society Ph. 1800 776 412
- Asbestos Diseases Foundation of Australia Ph. 1800 006 196

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This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

General Manager Water & Waste

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 20/02/2002
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REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:



John Andrejic
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER