

## Dangers of Asbestos in Public Infrastructure



Asbestos is a naturally occurring substance used in the construction of buildings for many years. Builders liked its resistance to heat and chemicals. It is also a great insulator of electricity.

As such, they used it a lot in construction. It wasn't until the 1980s that builders discontinued the use of asbestos due to its uncovered health risks. Canada only formally banned asbestos in 2018. As renovations expanded in the Greater Toronto Area, the need for [asbestos removal in Oshawa](#), Whitby, and nearby areas also increased.

The health effects of asbestos are well documented. Asbestos can cause lung cancer, mesothelioma, and other types of lung disease when inhaled. Even worse, some don't experience the effects of the exposure until much later. In fact, most people exposed to asbestos do not develop any symptoms until decades or more after the initial exposure.

### Asbestos in Old Buildings



Canadians who live or frequent old buildings are at a heightened risk of developing these deadly diseases. Unfortunately, the only solution for this problem is removing or containing all the asbestos from buildings.

Because the process is complicated, it requires professional asbestos removal services. They test the affected portions for asbestos. The parts are then either carefully removed or sealed to avoid spreading particles. Asbestos removal in Oshawa and other parts of the Greater Toronto Area follows strict municipal protocols to avoid spreading the contaminant.

### **Asbestos in Public Infrastructure**

Buildings are not the only areas of concern. Public infrastructure is not exempt from the deadly substance. Old infrastructure still contains trace amounts of asbestos, posing a great health risk to the general public.

One of the most serious concerns is the use of asphalt mixed with asbestos for road work. Asbestos strengthens asphalt, which makes it last a long time when poured on the road. When the asphalt eventually wears down, though, the asbestos remains, creating dust particles small enough to enter the lungs.

Another concern is the use of asbestos cement pipes on waterways. Though already discontinued, some old pipes still exist. These pose a health risk to the asbestos removal contractors who remove them as well as nearby residents.

### **Asbestos at Home**

You are at risk if you have an older house. Older houses sometimes contain insulation or finishes made with asbestos. You should keep an eye out for any signs that they may have asbestos in your home. These include damaged or water-damaged ceilings, walls, or floors.

### **Trust the Professionals for Asbestos Removal**



If you are planning on renovating your home, there are ways to make the asbestos removal process safer. It's always advisable to seek professional assistance. Contact us, and we'll help you test and evaluate your home. Then, we'll remove all affected parts if necessary.

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