



ASBESTOS SAFETY

Asbestos is a naturally-occurring mineral fiber that can be found in a variety of building construction materials. Due to its strength and heat-resistant properties, it was once widely used for a range of manufactured goods including building materials, friction products, heat-resistant fabrics, packaging, gaskets, and coatings. Asbestos has since been banned in many of these products, but it can still be found in older construction, fireproofing, and insulation materials.

When materials containing asbestos are damaged or disturbed, microscopic fibers become airborne. These fibers can cause significant health problems if inhaled. These diseases will not affect you immediately; they often take a long time to develop, but once diagnosed, it is often too late to do anything. This is why it is important that you protect yourself now.

Here are few examples of asbestos-containing materials you may come into contact with:

- Roofing felt, shingles, and patch material
- Vinyl floor tile and linoleum backing
- Pipe and boiler insulation
- Fireproofing material
- Spray-on decorative acoustical ceiling material
- Putties, caulks, cements, and other mastics

Because asbestos is often mixed with other materials, it can be difficult to know if you are working with it. The only way to be sure is to have it tested in a lab. If the material is positive for asbestos, only a properly-trained crew can remove, repair, encapsulate, or enclose it.

Because the individual asbestos fibers released into the air are microscopic, it is best to use caution when dealing with unknown items. Unless you are sure they have been properly tested, avoid disturbing them. Asbestos fibers can cause serious health problems, including lung disease and cancer. Being aware of these risks will help you to avoid them and work safely.

TOOLBOX TALKS **Asbestos Safety**

Meeting Conducted

By: _____ Date: _____

Comments:

Attendees:

Print	Signature	Print	Signature
1.		9.	
2.		10.	
3.		11.	
4.		12.	
5.		13.	
6.		14.	
7.		15.	
8.		16.	