

### Damaged Structures from Asbestos Surveys to Clean-Up Take 2



This is a topic work repeating. So that's what we're doing with this installment of *Asbestos Updates*.

Asbestos surveys normally are performed prior to renovation or demolition. However, structures can be damaged by unforeseen events, such as fires, floods, strong winds, heavy snow, etc., prior to obtaining an asbestos survey. Damage can make the structure or a portion of the structure permanently uninhabitable or unusable.

When structures are damaged, promptly taking steps to assess the presence of asbestos is important in safeguarding public health. Until the site is cleaned-up, reasonable measures may prevent further contamination or the release of asbestos fibers. Reasonable measures include, but are not limited to the following:

- Limit access to the debris field or structure (e.g., fence the area, post no trespassing signs);
- Debris fields may be tarped;
- Obtain your AHERA asbestos survey and/or alternate asbestos survey\* quickly; and
- Use Emergency Notification procedures if necessary. (Article IX, Sec 9.04 7.h.)

*\*Depending on the extent of the structure's damage, performing a conventional asbestos survey may not be feasible for the structure or portions thereof. Regulations allow for alternate asbestos surveys in conjunction with alternate work plans to eliminate asbestos hazards when conventional removal methods have been exhausted (financial considerations aside).*

Below are links to guidance documents to help owners of damaged structures, consultants, and contractors comply with Asbestos Control Standards in Spokane Regional Clean Air Agency Regulation I, Article IX.

- [Damaged Structures...From Asbestos Surveys to Clean Up](#)
- [Alternate Asbestos Surveys](#)
- [When are Alternate Asbestos Project Work Practices Necessary?](#)

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