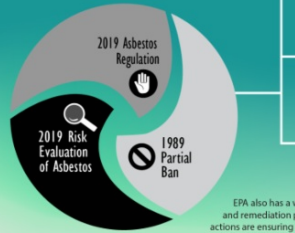



**EPA Actions to Protect the Public from Asbestos**

The use of asbestos has dramatically declined since its peak in the 1970s. Today, there are few remaining asbestos-containing products and asbestos is no longer mined in the United States. There are three key actions that EPA has taken or is actively working on that address asbestos-containing products.



- 1989 Partial Ban**  
An EPA rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act banned the manufacture, import, processing and distribution of some asbestos-containing products. The banned product categories include: asbestos-containing flooring felt, rollboard, and commercial, corrugated, and specialty papers. EPA also banned new uses of asbestos which prevented new asbestos products from entering the marketplace after August 25, 1989.
- 2019 Asbestos Regulation**  
A final rule that ensures that discontinued asbestos products cannot be reintroduced into commerce without the Agency evaluating them and putting in place any necessary restrictions, including prohibiting use.
- 2019 Risk Evaluation of Asbestos**  
This process under TSCA evaluates whether certain asbestos uses present an unreasonable risk of injury to health or the environment. This process must be completed before EPA is able to restrict use or ban use in any of those products, if unreasonable risk is found.

EPA also has a wide range of guidance and tools available online to help homeowners, schools, building managers, and remediation professionals safely manage, clean-up and dispose of asbestos-containing products. Together EPA's actions are ensuring public health is protected as the use of asbestos in the United States continues to decline.

 [www.epa.gov/asbestos](http://www.epa.gov/asbestos)

## EPA issues final rule

In April 2019, the U.S. EPA issued a final rule to ensure that asbestos products that are no longer on the market cannot return to commerce without the Agency evaluating them and putting in place any necessary restrictions or prohibiting use.

This rule is explained with this infographic (click on image to enlarge.) [Learn more about the rule.](#)

The U.S. EPA has a [listing](#) of the laws and regulations pertaining to asbestos implemented by EPA and certain other federal agencies.

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