**Asbestos fact sheet** 

## Protect yourself from asbestos



Asbestos is a natural mineral fibre found in many Queensland houses. It isn't dangerous to our health when it's in good condition.

When asbestos is moved or damaged, for example during a cyclone, severe weather or a fire—the fibres in the material can become airborne. These fibres can be easily breathed in and can be harmful.



When visiting or cleaning-up, you can reduce the risk of airborne fibres from asbestos-containing materials by:

- keeping material wet when moving it
- not breaking or damaging the material
- cleaning materials with a garden hose or by hand to avoid damaging them
- ont using power tools on the material.

## After a disaster

Contact 13 QGOV (13 75 68):

- for advice on safe clean-up of asbestos materials around your property
- to get an asbestos removal certificate
- to engage a licensed asbestos contractor.

Contact your local council:

- if you are worried a building containing asbestos could collapse
- if you are concerned about a neighbour not taking precautions when cleaning up asbestos.

Contact Workplace Health and Safety Queensland on 1300 362 128 if:

- you are concerned about a business or tradesperson not taking precautions when cleaning up asbestos
- you are concerned about a building fire involving asbestos.

Visit <u>asbestos.qld.gov.au</u> to learn more about common places asbestos can be found in the home.

Call **13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84)** at any time.
Contact **13 QGOV (13 74 68)** for your nearest Public Health Unit.

