
ENVIRONMENTAL Fact Sheet



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ASB-5

2009

Asbestos Sampling

Sampling and Analysis

Materials suspected of containing asbestos may be sampled and analyzed for content to confirm the presence of asbestos. Samples must be: (1) representative, (2) clean, (3) sealed and (4) labeled, as follows:

1. **Representative** means that it should be a typical example of the type or class of material present. In the case of layered materials, care should be taken to sample a complete cross section of material, so that the analysis will yield results representing the entire composition of the material. The material should be misted with water prior to sampling to avoid fiber release, and the sample size should be at least the diameter of a quarter.
2. **Clean** refers to the container in which the sample or specimen is placed for shipping to the laboratory. Dusty or friable material (example: pipe insulation) should be placed in 35mm plastic photographic film containers or similar containers, whenever possible. This ensures a solid container with a good lid seal. If the material is nonfriable (example: transite board) it should be placed in double Ziploc bags. The container, whether it be a film canister or double plastic bags, should be labeled as "Asbestos - ?."
3. **Sealed** means contained in a manner as to preclude the potential for visible emissions, and thus air contamination. Regardless of the type of container selected for shipment, this requires the lid, flap, or seam to be secured, either by the nature of the design of the container or taped to reinforce the mechanical seal.
4. **Labeled** means imprinted with the following information and any other notes that one might need for internal record keeping:
 - a. Date and time sample was collected.
 - b. Person collecting the sample.
 - c. Name of the property owner where the sample was collected.
 - d. Street address where sample was taken.
 - e. Town in which sample was taken.
 - f. Address to which results are to be sent.
 - g. Comments (special information pertinent to sampling condition, sample location, etc.).

Analysis can determine the type and percentage of asbestos in material samples, as well as in soil. A protocol for determining the asbestos content in river sediments/soil has been developed by the USEPA Region 1, ESD Biology Section Laboratory. Material samples from a school must be analyzed by a laboratory that is accredited by the National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP) in accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA).

Laboratories

The following list provides information on laboratories in New Hampshire and Massachusetts that specialize in asbestos analysis. The website address for additional NVLAP laboratories is <http://ts.nist.gov/ts/htdocs/210/214/scopes/plmtm.htm>. No endorsement of these laboratories is expressed or implied by the State of New Hampshire.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LABORATORIES

URS

Contact: Mr. Douglas R. Lawson
Phone: 603-893-0616
NVLAP Lab Code: 101433-0

5 Industrial Way
Salem, NH 03079
Fax: 603-893-6240

The Scott Lawson Group, Ltd.

Contact: Ms. Jennifer Scott
Phone: 603-228-3610
NVLAP Lab Code: 101228-0

20 Chenell Dr., PO Box 3304
Concord NH 03302-0894
Fax: 603-228-3871

MASSACHUSETTS LABORATORIES

Covino Environmental Associates, Inc.

Contact: Ms. Ann D. Eckmann
Phone: 781-933-2555
NVLAP Lab Code: 101781-0

300 Wildwood Avenue
Woburn, MA 01801
Fax: 781-932-9402

Hub Testing Laboratory, Inc.

Contact: Mr. Frederick T. Boyle
Phone: 800-878-8938
NVLAP Lab Code: 101045-0

95 Beaver Street
Waltham, MA 02453-8423
Fax: 781-893-4414

Hygienetics Laboratory Services

Contact: Mr. Bryan Clark
Phone: 617-589-0660
NVLAP Lab Code: 101147-0

98 North Washington Street
Boston, MA 02114
Fax: 617-742-4285

ProScience Analytical Services, Inc.

Contact: Mr. Adrian Stanca
Phone: 781-935-3212
NVLAP Lab Code: 200090-0

22 Cummings Park
Woburn, MA 01801-2122
Fax: 781-932-4857

SCILAB Boston, Inc.

Contact: Mr. John Sulkowski
Phone: 781-337-9334
NVLAP Lab Code: 102079-0

8 School Street
East Weymouth, MA 02189
Fax: 781-337-7642

Further Information

For additional information on asbestos sampling, contact: N.H. Department of Environmental Services, Waste Management Division, 29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95, Concord, NH 03302-0095; (603) 271-2925; FAX (603) 271-2456; TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964.