



Village of Fox Crossing Fire Department

Public Education Division

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Asbestos Safety

Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral that was invaluable for use as insulating and creating fire-proof coverings due to its high heat resistance, strength and insulating properties. It was woven into fabrics and mixed with cement.

Today, asbestos is known to cause mesothelioma cancer. Further, it is banned in more than 50 countries.

More than 75 different types of jobs in America have been known to expose workers to asbestos. However, an estimated 30 percent of all mesothelioma cases are military veterans—which tells us where the worst damage has been. Occupations in the construction industry have had the worst luck with asbestos/mesothelioma exposure. Plumbers, pipefitters, steamfitters and electricians were the most apt to get mesothelioma or have asbestos exposure due to the insulating properties used during manufacturing of the materials used.

If you have a history of asbestos exposure, and believe you may be showing signs of mesothelioma, it is best to seek immediate medical advice.

Asbestos Life Safety Tips

- ✓ A patient with mesothelioma usually begins showing symptoms 15 to 50 years after exposure.
- ✓ Cancer may take decades to develop in the body.
- ✓ Symptoms do not arise until after the cancer is present.
- ✓ Common (early) symptoms of mesothelioma includes fatigue, coughing, shortness of breath and reduced respiratory function.
- ✓ We encourage you to visit a very helpful website for asbestos/mesothelioma assistance at www.asbestos.com.

Did you know...?

- ✓ According to Asbestos.com's website, Wisconsin ranks 14th in the U.S. for mesothelioma and asbestosis deaths.
- ✓ Wisconsin's large paper manufacturing history has helped make it a high ranking state for deaths.
- ✓ Between 1999-2008, there were 708 deaths in Wisconsin related to asbestos/mesothelioma.
- ✓ Mesothelioma is pronounced mez-uh-thee-leeoh-muh.
- ✓ There are several types of mesothelioma: pleural mesothelioma, peritoneal mesothelioma, pericardial mesothelioma and testicular mesothelioma.