ABATEMENT — GUIDE

Demolition and renovation notifications

Ask the delegated agency about NESHAP coverage before setting a start date.

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Start with the building and project

EPA's asbestos NESHAP overview describes requirements for covered facilities, including institutional, commercial and industrial buildings. It describes a thorough inspection before demolition or renovation. Its residential exclusion is not a blanket exclusion for homes in larger commercial or public projects. [EPA NESHAP]

Give the delegated air agency the address, use, planned work, survey and proposed dates. Ask who has filing responsibility. Name that person in the contract. A contractor's plan to file later is not evidence that a notice has been accepted.

Demolition and renovation are not the same trigger

EPA says notification applies to any demolition of a covered facility and to renovations over the regulated material threshold. A survey that finds no asbestos does not by itself remove a covered demolition's notification obligation. [EPA NESHAP]

EPA's overview describes removal thresholds of 260 linear feet, 160 square feet or 35 cubic feet where the material could not previously be measured. Those figures refer to regulated asbestos-containing material. Do not use gross floor area or combine unlike units. Do not use the figures as a general permission to disturb material below them. Ask the agency how the rule applies to the actual scope. [EPA NESHAP]

Check state and local routes

Massachusetts' AQ 04 notification page instructs applicants to file ten working days before asbestos removal begins. Use its instructions for the current process and any waiver route. This state example is not a nationwide deadline. [Massachusetts AQ 04]

Washington L&I publishes asbestos project notification information on its asbestos certification page. New York's Asbestos Control Bureau links to notification resources. Confirm the air agency and municipality as well as the occupational safety authority. [Washington L&I; New York DOL]

Keep separate records

Track the survey, notice, acknowledgement, changes to dates, local demolition permit, waste route and completion documents separately. A notice is not a building permit. Ask the municipality about permit conditions and utility disconnection. In British Columbia, consult WorkSafeBC's asbestos notice of project guidance rather than using a US threshold. [WorkSafeBC]

Sources

All sources below were fetched and checked on 2026-11-10. This is the check date, not a claim about publication date.

- EPA NESHAP, accessed 2026-11-10.
- Massachusetts AQ 04, accessed 2026-11-10.
- Washington L&I, accessed 2026-11-10.
- New York DOL, accessed 2026-11-10.
- WorkSafeBC, accessed 2026-11-10.

Frequently asked questions

Does this guide replace a project assessment?

No. Confirm the scope and current requirements with the responsible authority and a qualified professional.