Asbestos Awareness

For bushfire affected residents

A fire damaged asbestos building does not generate significant levels of asbestos fibres in the air unless it is disturbed. Although it is generally low risk to walk around or nearby asbestos damaged buildings, risks can increase when the material is disturbed.

Please note, testing of the air has been conducted and no asbestos fibres have been detected in the air.

The following precautionary measures are recommended:

- Before entering, you must have confirmation from emergency Services, utilities companies or local council that it is safe to enter your property.
- Avoid unnecessary entry, particularly entry by children.
- A site assessment to identify asbestos has been undertaken by a licensed asbestos assessor or occupational hygienist.
- When identified, asbestos debris will be kept wet or sprayed with PVA, or a similar sealant, to suppress the release of fibre until the material is safely removed.
- Access to the immediate site must be limited to those involved in the clean up. They are required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (including a suitable type P2 respirator and disposable coveralls). All personal protective equipment must be disposed of as asbestos waste once the clean up is complete.
- Warning signs have been erected where necessary
- Asbestos clean up and removal must be conducted by a qualified and licensed asbestos removalalist.
- Asbestos waste, including fibro, should be disposed of as soon as possible. The materials should be disposed of as soon as possible. The materials should be kept damp until they can be double wrapped in heavy duty (0.2mm) plastic, sealed with tape and labelled as asbestos waste.
- Asbestos waste can only be accepted at some landfill facilities. Contact council or the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) to find your nearest lawful waste facility and to learn more about the notification and packaging of asbestos.

Further Information

- For information about the safe handling and removal of asbestos, visit www.safework.nsw.gov.au
- For information about transport and disposal of hazardous materials, visit www.epa.nsw.gov.au
- For information about the health risks associated with asbestos, visit www.health.nsw.gov.au
- For information about common areas where asbestos can be found in the home, visit www.asbestosawareness.com.au.
- For general enquires please contact Bega Valley Shire Council on 02 6499 2222.

This factsheet is intended as a brief and general guide only. Each situation should be assessed and treated for its particular circumstances in accordance with current legislation and more detailed guidance may be needed.