

# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Raul Pino, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner



Ned Lamont  
Governor  
Susan Bysiewicz  
Lt. Governor

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** [REDACTED]

**FROM:** Stephen P. Dahlem  
Supervising Environmental Analyst  
Asbestos Program

**DATE:** January 31, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Requirements for Asbestos Survey Prior to Renovation or  
Demolition Activities in Single Family Homes

In accordance with [Sections 19a-332a-1 through 19a-3321-16](#), and [Sections 20-440-1 through 20-440-9](#) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (hereafter the "RCSA"), the "removal, encapsulation, enclosure, renovation, repair, demolition, or other disturbance" of more than three (3) square feet or three (3) linear feet of asbestos-containing materials is considered an "asbestos abatement project" and shall be performed by a State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (hereafter "Department") licensed "Asbestos Contractor" using Department certified "Asbestos Supervisors" and "Asbestos Workers". Significant engineering controls to protect the health of the asbestos workers, as well as the health of the general public, are additionally required by the RCSA when performing an asbestos abatement project. Violation of the above RCSA requirements may result in civil penalties being taken by the Department against the Owner, and/or the parties involved. These penalties may include monetary fines ranging from \$50 to \$25,000 per violation.

Therefore, in cases where potential asbestos containing materials may be disturbed during demolition and/or renovation activities, the Department strongly recommends that a Department licensed "Asbestos Inspector" be retained by the Owner to thoroughly inspect the portion of the "facility" that will be impacted by the construction work. As defined in Subsection 19a-332a-



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1(u) of the RCSA, the definition of a “*facility*” includes single family homes. Failure to perform such a survey, may lead to, as a minimum, the following outcomes:

- 1) The unintended disturbance of asbestos resulting in the performance of an “*asbestos abatement project*”, as defined in Subsection 19a-332a-1(e) of the RCSA, without the use of engineering controls, and by unlicensed individuals.
- 2) The exposure to carcinogenic airborne asbestos fibers by unknowing workers and other building occupants.
- 3) Liability by the Owner regarding violations of the RCSA.

Ignorance as to the presence of asbestos in a facility does not excuse an Owner from his/her responsibilities under the RCSA.

If you have any questions concerning this information please contact me directly at 860.509.7365.