

In addition to the physical hazards that can be found in construction and general industry work, there are many health hazards that workers should be aware of for their own protection. Most workers have heard of asbestos but may not understand why it should be a concern.

**OSHA Standard 1910.1101(a)(1)** *applies to all occupational exposures to asbestos in all industries... except construction work, ship repairing, shipbuilding and shipbreaking employments and related employments.*

## Why is asbestos so dangerous?

According to OSHA, asbestos is known to cause cancer in humans and can cause chronic lung disease and other health hazards.

Workers may not know they are contaminated because symptoms of these health hazards and even cancer may take many years to develop following exposure to the asbestos containing material.

## Where can asbestos be found?

Asbestos can be found in many area including pipe insulation, floor tiles, roofing tiles, boiler insulation and siding.

If you aren't sure if it contains asbestos **do not disturb it!**

- Never enter into a restricted asbestos area. Read and **follow warning signs** or barricades.

**OSHA Standard 1910.1101(e)(2)** *Regulated areas shall be demarcated from the rest of the workplace... [barricaded or marked].*

- When asbestos is disturbed it breaks down into tiny fibers that can easily be inhaled into the lungs.
- Only workers who are specially trained and equipped can install, remove, or disturb asbestos containing materials.
- Proper protective equipment must be worn at all times, depending on the type of activity performed.