

MEMORANDUM

TO: All SDSU Employees

FROM: Gillian I. Marks, Senior Director *Gillian I. Marks, PhD, MPH*
Paul De Soto, Occupational Safety Services Manager
Environment, Health & Safety

SUBJECT: **Annual Asbestos Notification**

DATE: January 31, 2020

Each year SDSU employees are notified of the presence of asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in campus buildings pursuant to the requirements of the California Health and Safety Code Section 25915. The University continues to survey locations for the presence of asbestos-containing material and known locations of asbestos-containing materials are routinely inspected to ensure the integrity of the material. This information is available to employees upon request by contacting the Department of Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) at x4-6778.

Asbestos fibers are occasionally found in thermal system insulation, fireproofing and fire doors, roofing materials, floor tiles, laboratory benchtops, spray-on acoustic insulation, and mastics in older buildings (i.e.- constructed pre-1981). The Environmental Protection Agency has established a designation for presumed asbestos-containing materials (PACM). All floor tile, mastic, thermal system insulation and surfacing materials in buildings constructed prior to 1981 are presumed to contain asbestos unless sampling and analysis refutes the classification. SDSU presumes that all of these materials are PACM unless sampling and analysis determines that no asbestos is present in the material.

Asbestos is only a health hazard if the fibers become airborne in sufficient numbers. Since asbestos is only a hazard if airborne, it is important for employees to follow proper work practices to minimize the potential for disturbing the materials and releasing fibers. In particular, avoid disturbing asbestos materials on walls, ceilings, pipes or in equipment. Do not break, drill or remove floor tiles. Do not puncture or hang items from walls or ceilings containing or presumed to contain asbestos. Do not handle damaged asbestos debris or materials. Only persons who have been trained are authorized to perform work that may disturb asbestos containing building materials. If you observe any asbestos materials that have been damaged, report the condition immediately to your supervisor and Environmental Health & Safety (x4-6778).

A listing of specific locations known to contain asbestos and the SDSU Asbestos Management Plan is available on the Environmental Health & Safety website at: <http://bfa.sdsu.edu/ehs/asbestos.htm>.