Hazardous Waste Collection and Disposal Service Guidance Document for Cement Bonded Asbestos

Cement bonded asbestos is classified as construction and demolition waste and not hazardous household waste, but the district/borough councils (Waste Collection Authorities) in partnership with Suffolk County Council offer a chargeable collection service for small quantities of cement bonded asbestos.

The service is intended for cement bonded asbestos, typically produced by small scale DIY or the odd sheet found behind the garden shed.

Asbestos cement was used in cold water tanks, corrugated/flat sheets (garage and sheds), guttering, downpipes, flue pipes and floor tiles. If in good condition asbestos cement is best left undisturbed, but asbestos sheets may deteriorate with age and may need to be removed.

The charge includes collection, the necessary consignment note and up to a maximum of 50 Kg disposal. You may dispose of up to 100 Kg, but for any excess over the 50 Kg allowance you will be invoiced by Suffolk County Council at the current rate. Quantities in excess of 100 Kg are outside of the scope of the service and collection and disposal should be via a licensed asbestos contractor.

As the collection charge may vary between district/borough councils you can find out the price in your area by contacting your local district/borough council or from their website.

The standard charge is for a 25-working day collection timescale, but a 10-working day timescale is offered for an additional charge.

Please note that if a contractor has left any asbestos waste at your property, after performing work on your behalf, you may still use the service for up to 100 Kg disposal, but the service will not include the 50 Kg of free disposal. Disposal for the total quantity will be charged at the current rate.

Businesses: we can also provide a collection for small quantities of cement bonded asbestos. Please e-mail waste.management@suffolk.gov.uk for a quote.

Items which may be accepted for collection:

- Asbestos collections can include corrugated sheet, insulation board (could be attached to door housing boiler), soffit boards, downpipe, guttering, flue pipe, sacks of broken pieces and water tanks.
- Sheets should be a maximum of 6’ x 3’ (1.83m x 0.91m). Sheets larger than this can be collected however will incur an additional handling charge.

Items not accepted in a collection request:

- Fibrous asbestos.
Handling Cement Asbestos

Most work involving cement asbestos may be carried out without a licence, but you should have appropriate information, instruction and training. However, due to the higher risk, most work with Asbestos Insulation Board (AIB) does require a licence.

Advice can be found on the Health & Safety Executive’s website – https://www.hse.gov.uk/asbestos/faq.htm or ‘HSE asbestos essentials series’.

Some advice is listed below

- When removing asbestos sheets, please follow safety guidelines (link above).
- Always wear glasses, dust mask (to conform to En:149:2001 standard with rating of FFP3).
- Never use power tools or rub down asbestos products.
- Never use a brush or scraper to remove moss from roofing sheets or debris from guttering.
- It is advisable to wear disposable one-piece overalls with hood. This can be bagged up and disposed of with the asbestos.
- Do not eat or drink while working with asbestos.
- Dampen asbestos with fine water spray prior to working.
- Avoid breaking sheets during work with cement asbestos.

Wrapping

- Asbestos sheets must be securely wrapped or bagged using heavy duty 1,000-gauge polythene (which can be obtained from most builder’s merchants and DIY stores) and sealed with strong tape.
- Sheets should not be broken, but small broken pieces should be placed in heavy duty polythene sacks and sealed with strong tape (builder’s rubble sacks are ideal). For ease of manual handling the sacks must not contain any more than 25 Kg each.
- To avoid manual handling problems and to avoid sheets rubbing together creating dust, the asbestos should be wrapped as single sheets and not together.
- Punctured or split packaging will not be collected.
- The packaged asbestos must be of a weight that can be easily lifted by one person and packages must be labelled "WARNING - CONTAINS ASBESTOS - DO NOT INHALE DUST".

Raising an asbestos collection request

Once you know the quantity of asbestos you have for disposal please visit, Suffolk Recycles, hazardous waste and visit your local waste collection authority page to raise a collection request. A list of the waste will be required, as in the examples below:

- Sheets – please state the length and width in centimetres or metres and number. A standard size corrugated sheet is approximately 1.8 x 0.9 metres with a weight of around 15 Kg. Sheets larger than this may not be manageable by one person. In this case you or your representative may be required to help the driver load the waste onto the vehicle.
- Water tanks – please give length, width and height in centimetres or metres – weight up to 40 Kg depending on size.
- Down/flue pipe – please state length and diameter and number.
- Guttering – please give length and width of the guttering and number of pieces.
- Floor tiles – please give length and width and number.
On completion of the collection request form

The application will then be forwarded onto the contractor, Biffa, who will check the list. If there are any issues or further information is required, they will inform your local waste collection authority accordingly. The selected working day collection timescale (25 or 10) starts on the working day following receipt of any fully completed collection request form by Biffa. If additional information is needed your collection will be put on hold and the working days (25 or 10) will commence once the additional information has been received.

For a 25-working day timescale Biffa should contact you within 10-working days with a scheduled collection date (within 5-working days for a 10-working day collection). Biffa should also contact you again in 5 to 2-working days in advance of collection to confirm the collection date. If you miss Biffa’s call, then please feel free to call them back to confirm your collection date or it may be re-scheduled for another date if they can’t get hold of you to confirm.

Collection of asbestos

When Biffa contacts you to confirm the collection, they will also agree where the waste will be placed for collection.

To this end:

- The asbestos must be stored safely and securely (wrapped appropriately) at ground level and close to the boundary of the property (e.g. front garden or car port) in an area which is easily accessible for a van.
- If your property fronts directly on to the pavement the asbestos should not be left on the pavement.
- If the asbestos is not easily accessible it may not be collected.

In the event Biffa is unable to collect the asbestos on the scheduled collection date or fails to collect (e.g. due to a lack of time) then you should be contacted within 2-working days to arrange a new collection date.

The driver will give you the appropriate part of the hazardous waste consignment note. You should check that all written details are correct before releasing the asbestos to the contractor. You are legally obliged to keep your part of the consignment note for three years as proof of proper disposal of the asbestos.

For further advice on storage, handling and packaging asbestos, contact Biffa on 01438 759 850.

For further information visit – www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/where-to-recycle/hazardous-waste

To raise a hazardous waste collection, you will need to do this with your local collection authority please visit their hazardous waste page or use the contact number on the page to raise a request.

Babergh - 0300 1234000 option 4
Mid Suffolk - 0300 1234000 option 4
Ipswich - 01473 433090
West Suffolk - 01284 757320
East Suffolk – 0333 0162000