What is asbestos?

- Asbestos is a naturally occurring mineral fiber mined for its useful properties.
- Asbestos is a known carcinogen and can cause respiratory disease.
- There is a common misconception that asbestos use was completely banned in the United States.
- It is currently legal to manufacture certain asbestos containing materials (ACMs) and some ACMs are still being imported today.
- Asbestos fibers have been added to many different building materials regardless of the date of construction.
How to get your building tested:

- Building materials require asbestos testing or must be assumed to be asbestos containing.
- Testing must be done by a Colorado certified Asbestos Building Inspector who can be found through: www.colorado.gov/cdphe/asbestos-consulting-firms
- Contact CDPHE to determine if testing is required. In most cases, testing will be required.

Some places asbestos containing materials can be found:

1. Cement like products such as shingles and siding.
2. Walls/ceilings (drywall, plaster, etc.), skim coating, texturing, joint compounds and acoustical texturing “popcorn ceiling”.
3. Floor tiles, sheet vinyl, linoleum and their associated adhesives.
4. Sprayed on fireproofing seen on structural beams and decking.
5. Ceiling tiles, fire doors and soffits.
6. Insulation on pipes and boilers, including pipe/duct wrap.
7. Blown in insulation such as vermiculite.

Asbestos Materials: Likely Locations

1. Asbestos Cement Products
2. Texture Coatings
3. Floor Tiles, Textiles & Composites
4. Sprayed coatings on walls, beams/columns
5. Asbestos insulating board
6. Lagging
7. Loose Asbestos in ceiling or floor cavity